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COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

FRANKLIN

NORTH CAROLINA

ABSTRACT

TITLE: Community Facilities Plan for Franklin,
North Carolina

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Berchekas, Jr., Community Planner

SUBJECT: Community Facilities: Inventory and
Suggestions for Improvement

DATE: August, 1970

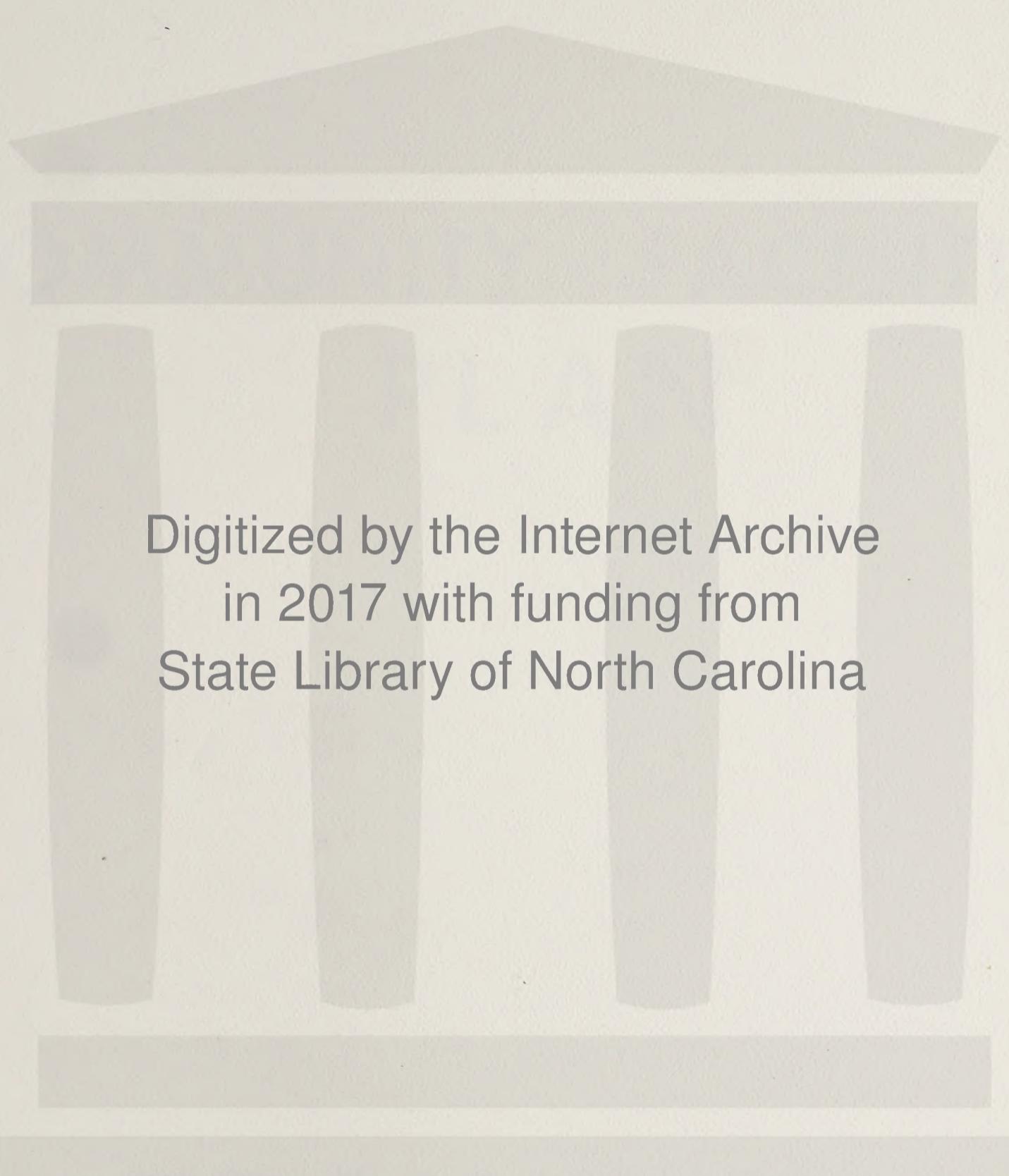
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ABSTRACT: This report studies the present adequacy
and availability of public services, facilities and utilities for the Town of Franklin
and the one-mile planning area of jurisdiction
surrounding the town. Recommendations are
made for the upgrading in quality and for
expansion of public services offered the
citizens of Franklin in order that these services
keep pace with the growth of the
community.



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COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

**FRANKLIN
NORTH CAROLINA**

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AUGUST, 1970

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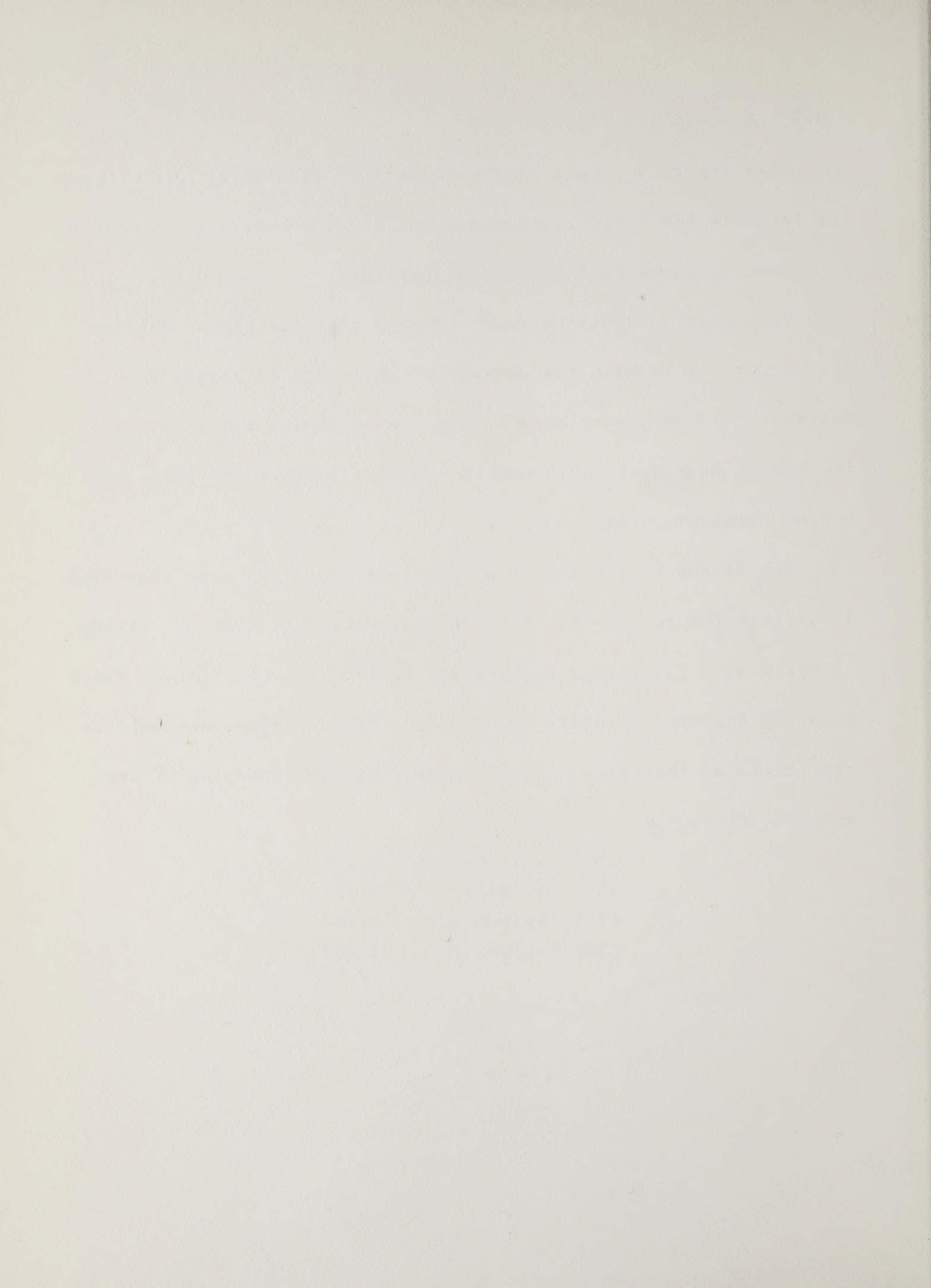
I N T R O D U C T I O N

This report analyzes present community facilities and services for Franklin and makes recommendations for the expansion and improvement of these facilities and services.

This report should be analyzed as a policies plan. This is the intent -- to help the community and county officials in setting goals and objectives to improve community facilities and the proper methods of approach in order to achieve the goals of better community service.

The following population projections have been made regarding Franklin's future growth. These projections were made in a study of Franklin's Population and Economy in 1963, by the Western North Carolina Regional Planning Commission. These projections will be considered as important criteria regarding the expansion of community facilities.

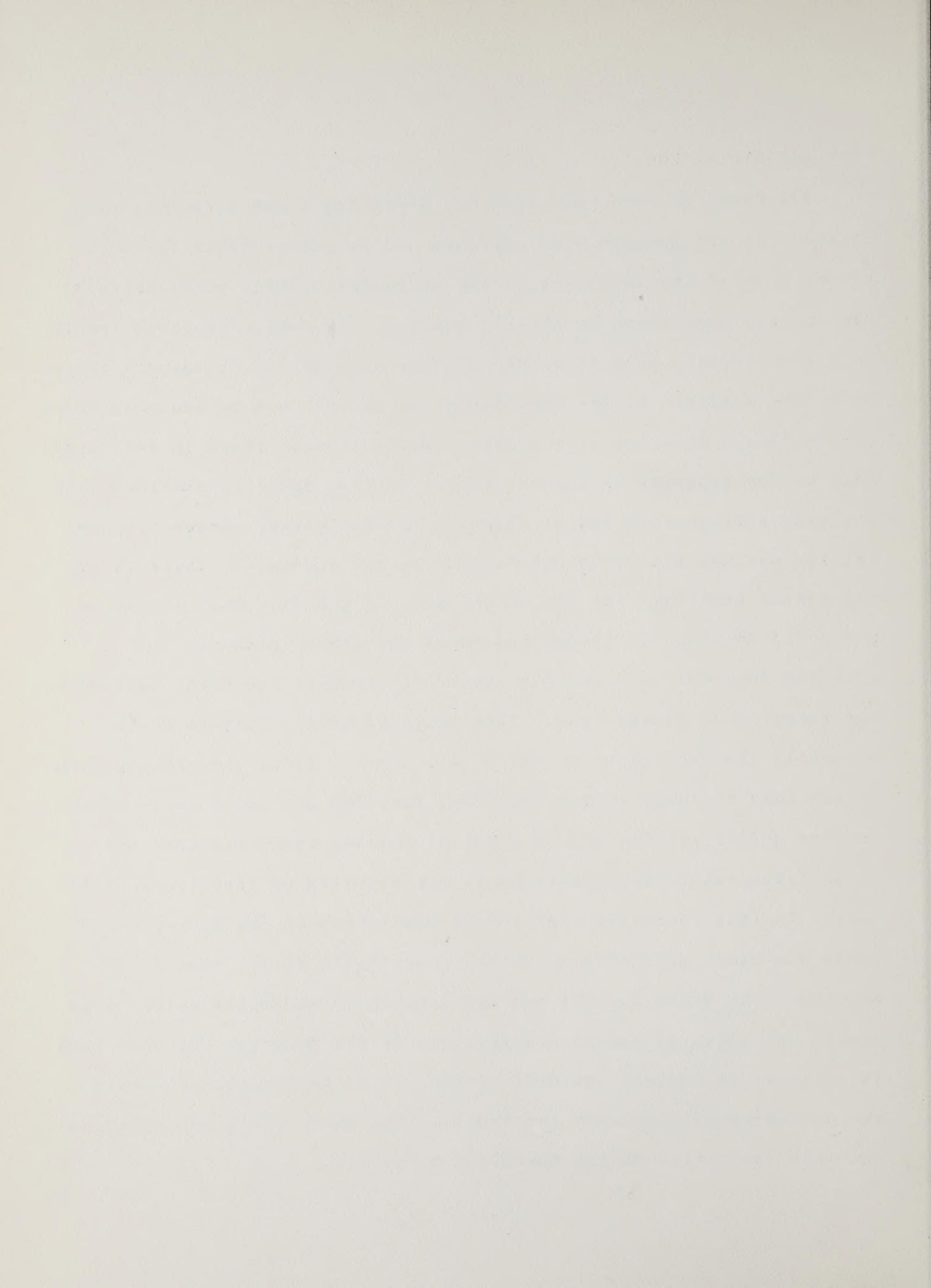
1960 U. S. Census:	2,173
1970 Estimate:	2,700
1975 Projection:	3,100
1980 Projection:	3,500



TOWN ADMINISTRATION

The Franklin Town Hall is a one story brick and stone building, constructed for governmental purposes and as a fire house in 1955. At the rear of the Town Hall is the municipal storage yard, wherein the various town-owned trucks and supplies are kept. The yard fronts on a side street, away from the main entrance to the building. Therefore, the entrance to the administrative offices and to the fire house remain clear, insuring easy access. Truck storage space is also available in the basement of the building. Parking space is combined with the rear storage yard and is adequate for employees. However, parking for patrons and volunteer firemen is not adequate. There is no off-street parking. The lot to the east of the Town Hall should be purchased and the lot graded and paved for public parking.

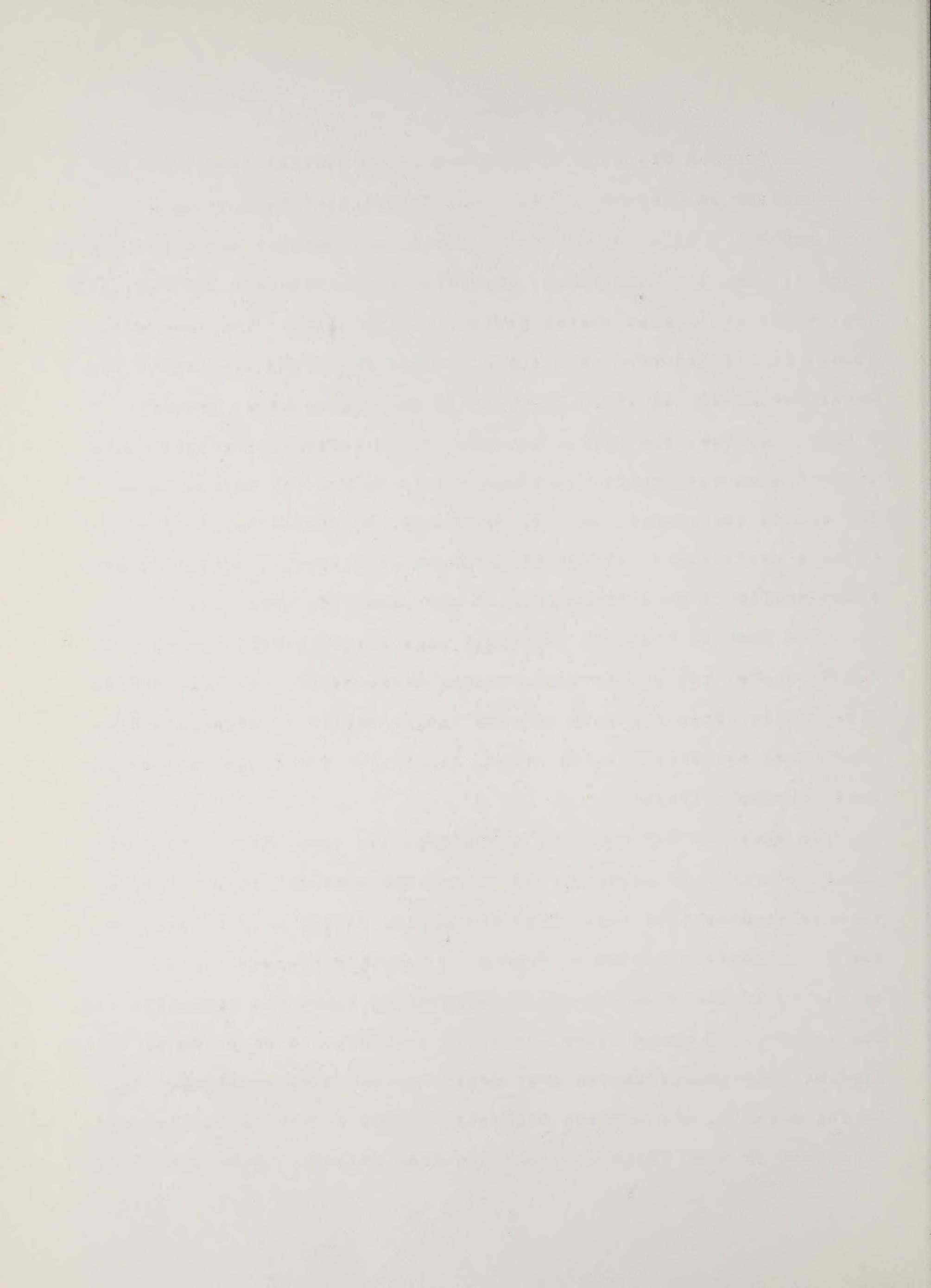
The Town Hall has adequate space for present municipal operations, but there is no excess room. This could present a problem in the future if the Town plans to expand its staff. Also, the meeting room in the rear is large enough for board meetings and small conferences, but not sufficient for use as a public hearing room, provided there is an issue considered important to the majority of Franklin's citizens. In this case, the high school auditorium or the County Court House are used, depending on which is available at the time of the hearing. The Mayor has not had any trouble in arranging spaces when needed and does not expect any problems in the future. The town yard is adequate at present and will remain so in the future, even with new purchases of equipment and trucks. The Town should not overload its yard facilities during the planning period.



The Town of Franklin is governed by an elected Town Board of Aldermen and an elected Mayor, under North Carolina Statutes. The Town employs a Director of Public Works, who manages the water system, sewer system, the town lands, the solid waste disposal service, and supervises the street system paving and repairing. The Town also offers police and fire protection. These functions are local; the County of Macon, of which Franklin is the county seat, sponsors library service, the public schools, civil defense, the jail (used by both town and county), ambulance service and the rescue squad, the health department, and the department of social services and welfare assistance. A countywide Board of Trustees, operating as a non-profit corporation, operates the community hospital.

The Town of Franklin employs a capable, efficient Director of Public Works, but due to the comprehensiveness of his responsibilities, he is often not able to take prompt action to alleviate problems that may periodically arise, along with his on-going maintenance responsibilities.

In order to improve this situation, the town should seriously consider hiring an assistant to administer some of the director's various responsibilities. This may appear financially unfeasible for a community the size of Franklin, but this proposal is a necessity if the town expects to adequately serve the community in the future, and would allow immediate attention to be given to various maintenance duties that might otherwise be overlooked. In the interim, the present Director of Public Works will find it necessary to keep abreast of all problems regarding maintenance.



TOWN RECREATION FACILITIES

The Town owns one park, a small 1-½ acre park on West Main Street. The facilities offered at this park are meager; a set of swings and slides, one tennis court, a shuffleboard court, and a youth center, equipped with restrooms. This center is periodically defiled and damaged by vandals; hence, it is rather difficult to maintain. Several times various civic groups have helped to clean it up. The center is used for various meetings of different groups, which may explain why they are helpful in maintaining it. Close patrol during warmer months should cut down on vandalism.

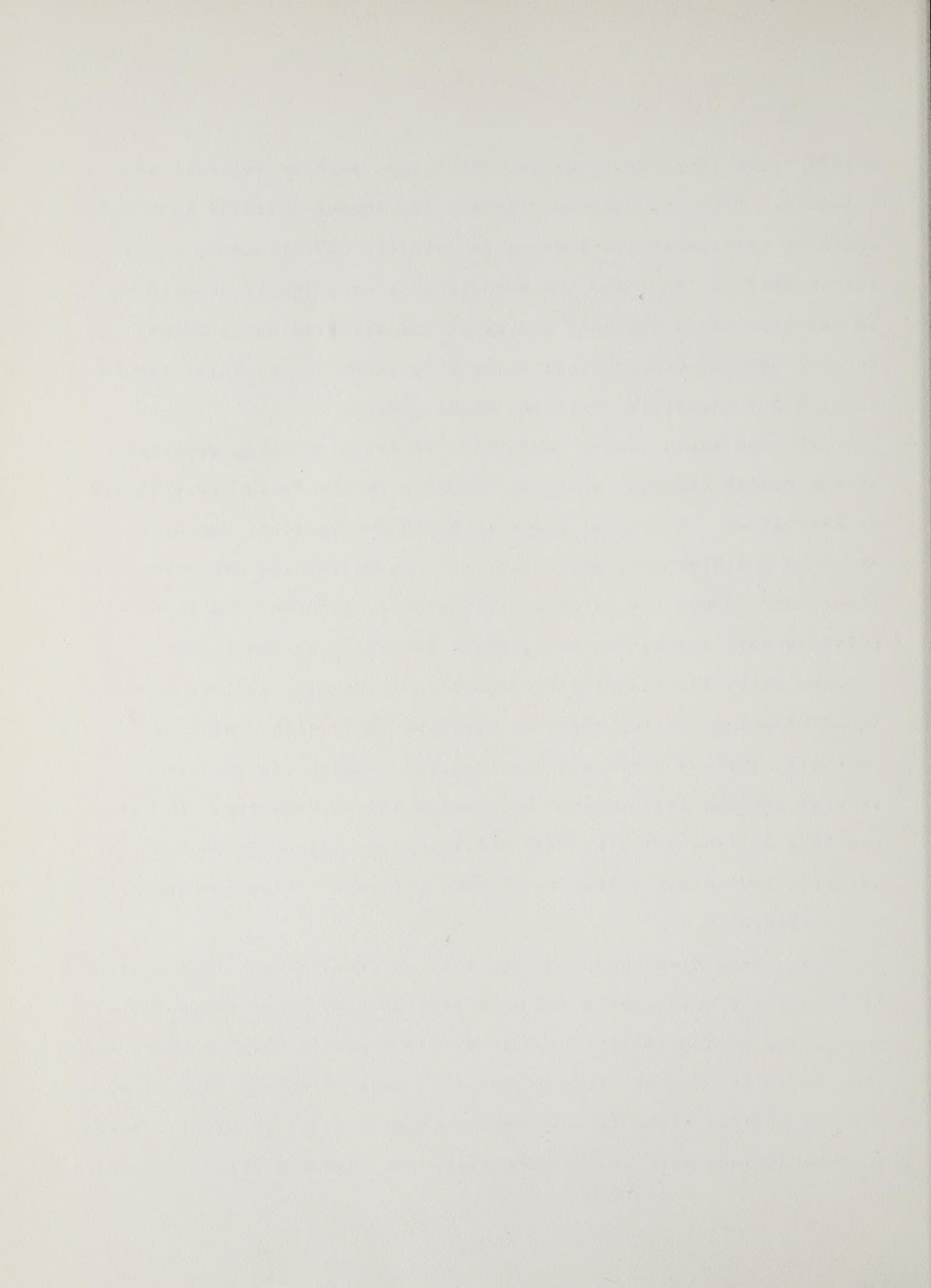
The local Community Action Agency, the Macon Program for Progress, is now working to establish more recreational activities for the community's senior citizens and the youth. This is one area in which the Town may join in an active partnership with both the CAA and the local businessmen in establishing more activities for these two age groups. The Franklin Land Development Plan proposes open space through the area known locally as "Frogtown". Various passive recreational pursuits such as picnicking, hiking, and bicycle trails should be established in this area. A senior citizen's center should be established on the northern side of this area, near the Central Business District or near the Court House. This area should be supervised by the County recreation staff through supervisory time bought by Franklin from Macon County. The Macon Program for Progress (local CAA) and the Town and County should cooperate in managing the Senior Citizen's Center.

Across the Little Tennessee River, at the site of the old airport, the Land Development Plan also proposes open space. This area

should serve large space-using activities, such as softball and baseball. Dirt and sandbag diamonds and wooden football stanchions would be relatively inexpensive to install, and bleachers or flood-lights need not be installed because this area should be used on an informal basis for ball games, as the proposed Macon County Recreation Park (approximately one mile south of Franklin) should be used for organized teams and night games.

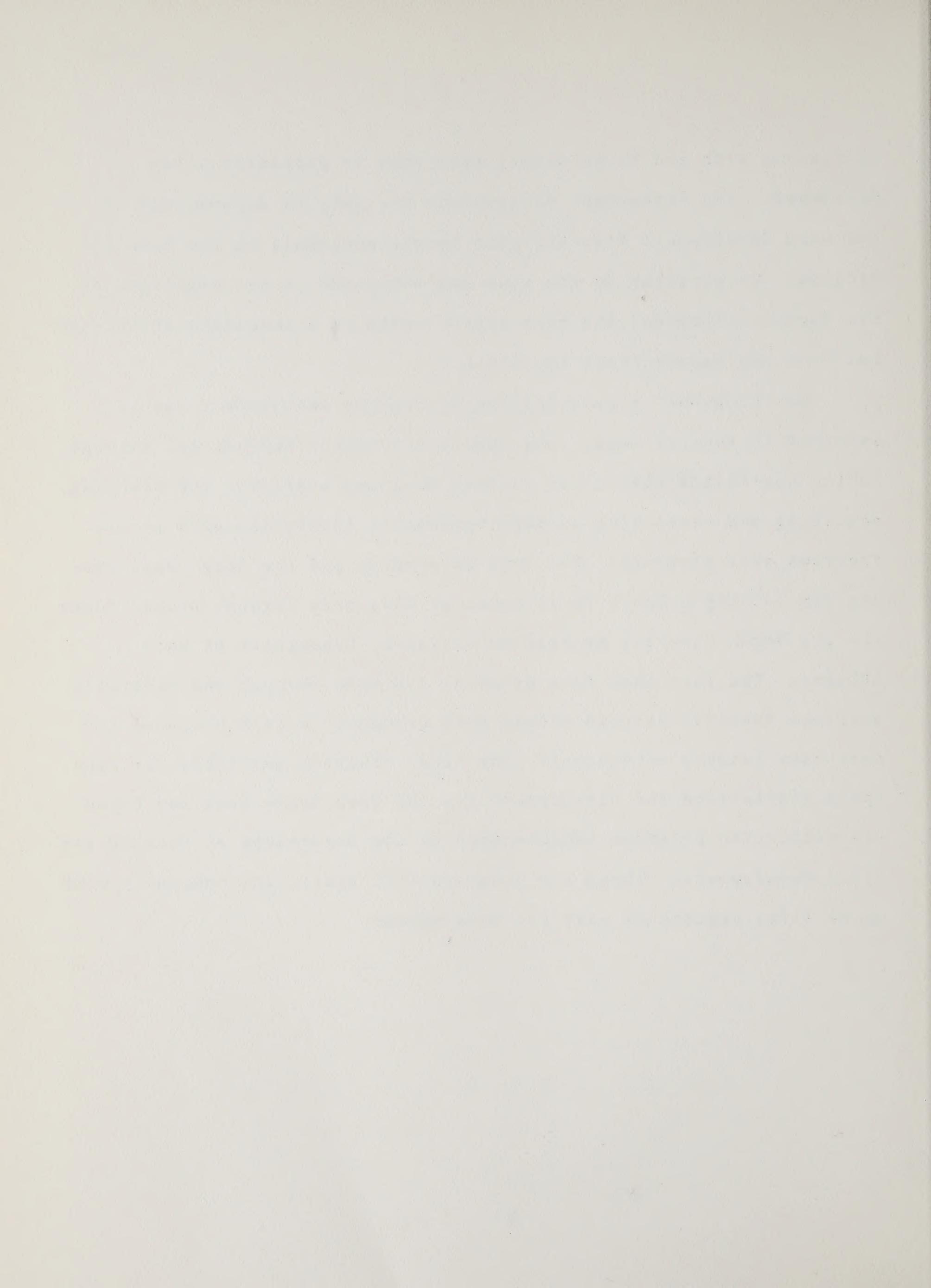
The new Macon County Recreation facility is being developed approximately one mile south of Franklin by the Macon County Board of Recreation. A Federal grant to build the facility has been approved and bleachers and lights for the ballfields are under construction. Among the various facilities to be offered will be a swimming pool and wading pool, snack bar, play equipment for younger children, basketball, handball, volleyball, shuffleboard, square dancing, roller skating, baseball (with night lighting), football, shelter house and picnic areas, tennis courts, and several parking lots capable of parking 196 automobiles. All of the lots will be asphalt. For utilities, an extension to the existing town water system is planned and septic tanks employed for sewerage.

The above described facility will be located less than a mile of Franklin's Town limits and will provide many local recreational needs, but such needs still exist within Franklin which must be met, especially for senior citizens and for young children, both of whom need facilities close to home or within easy reach ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile). These recommendations were described earlier and should still be carried



out, along with the Macon County Park that is presently being developed. The "Frogtown" development not only is recommended in the Land Development Plan but also in the proposals of the Townlift Program. Cooperation by the town and merchants is the highlight of the Townlift Program, and this spirit would be a necessary adjunct to building the recreational facilities.

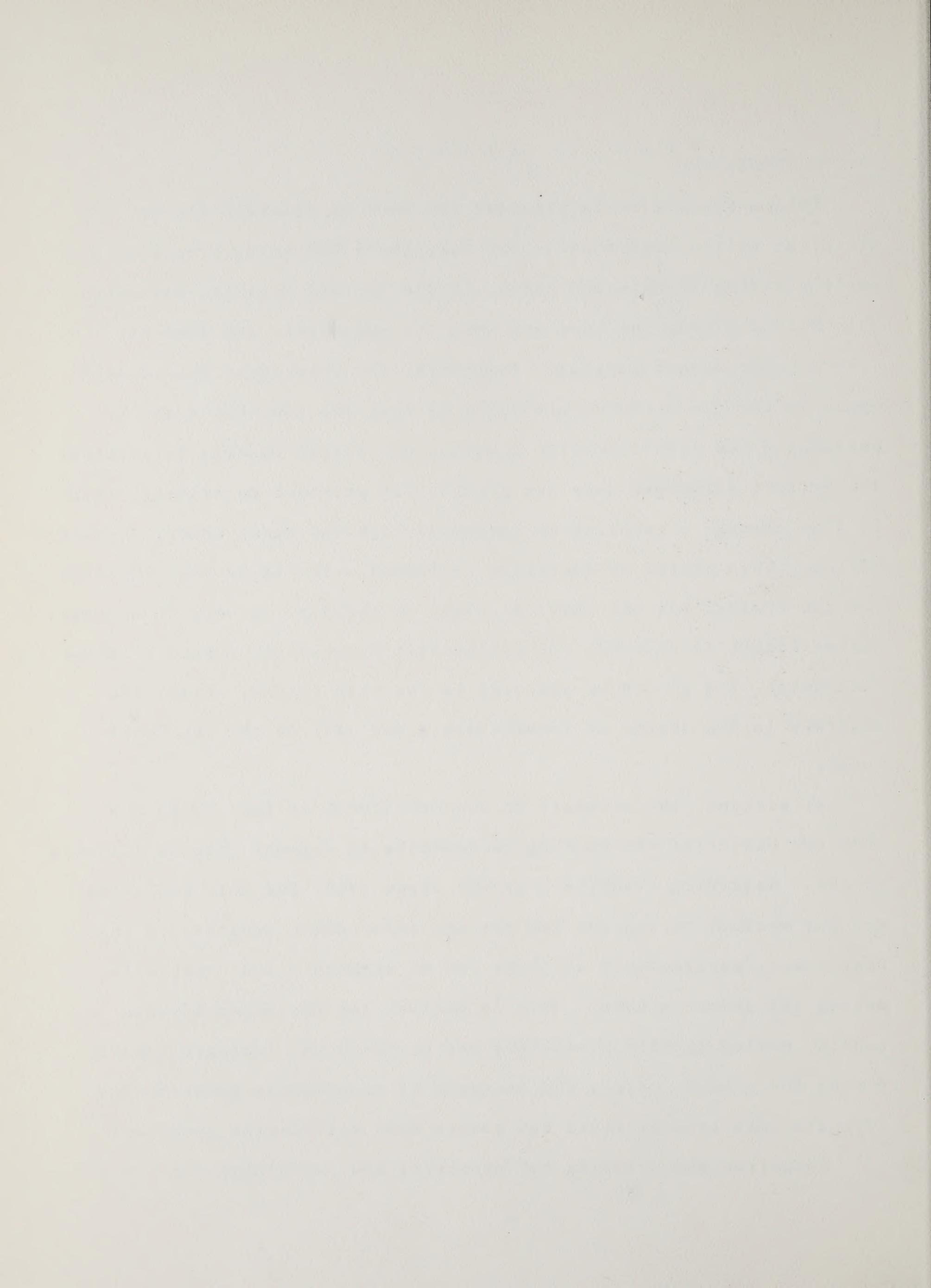
The "Frogtown" area's passive recreation development may be executed in several ways. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, through Public Law 88-578 (1965) has various programs available for planning, acquiring and developing outdoor recreation facilities such as the Frogtown area proposal. The Town government and the local businessmen may jointly propose development of this area through Bureau funds via the North Carolina Recreation Division, Department of Local Affairs. The fact that this proposal was made through the Federally assisted Townlift Program should give credence to this proposal for core city outdoor recreation: Two other programs available for open space acquisition and development are the Open Space Land and Urban Beautification programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. These two programs will assist the community with up to fifty percent of cost for development.



P U B L I C S A F E T Y
POLICE PROTECTION

Police protection is provided the Town of Franklin through the municipal Police Department. The Department has headquarters in a small building at Main and Iotla, in the Central Business District. This building does not have any room for expansion, and does not have any off street parking. Therefore, the Department should seek space in the new County Court House or have the Town build the Department a new structure with adequate off street parking facilities. The present structure does not provide for prisoner detainment; this is done through a cooperative agreement with the Macon County Sheriff's Office. This system of operation is deemed workable by both Franklin and the County, but the physical plant of the jail is very inadequate. The structure is unsound, not efficiently planned for modern prisoner detainment, and should be replaced in the near future. Plans are underway in the County to incorporate a new jail in the new Court House.

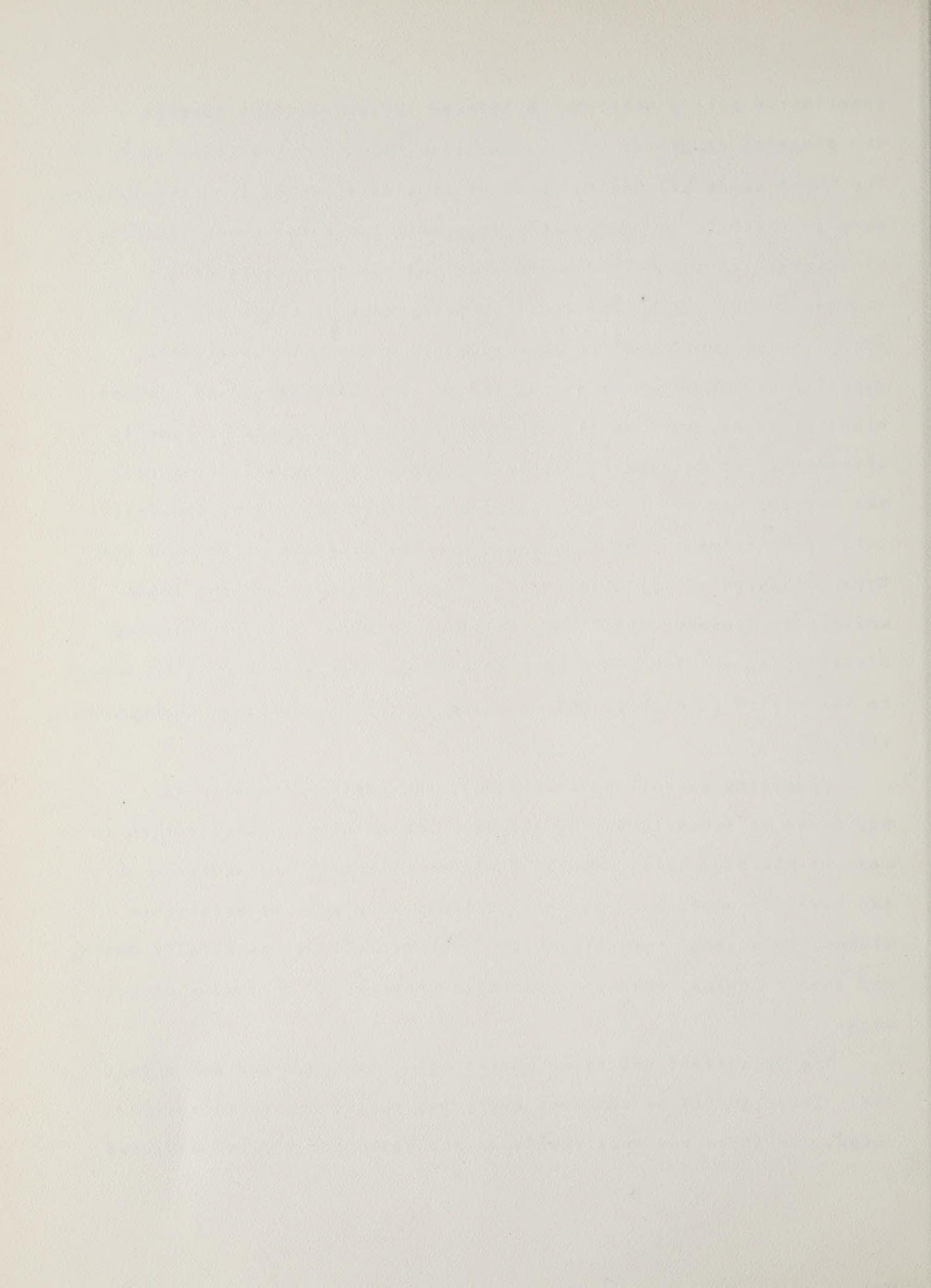
At present, the strength of the Department is four patrolmen with one part-time man working on weekends to augment routine building checks. Regarding Franklin's growth since 1960, two more full-time men are needed, to upgrade the present enforcement capacity of the Department, particularly at night and on weekends, and especially during the summer months. This is because the two major offense counts, moving traffic violations and drunkenness, increase greatly during the summer. Also, the increase of drunkenness among minors over the last several years has caused some enforcement problems. Education and training for neophytes and retraining for



experienced police officers is offered through various courses and programs taught at the Southwestern Technical Institute at Sylva. The Chief sends his men to these courses as often as time and finances permit, which is not dependable regarding law enforcement training. Of interest to the Police Department and the Town would be the courses taught by the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill. Although these would require some time, they would be worthwhile, especially regarding new techniques of law enforcement and new problems of crime, such as the drug problem and discovery of same in offenders. It is suggested that the Department be able to attend the various law enforcement training sessions offered by the Institute of Government. Of importance are the programs of the Law and Order Division of the Department of Local Affairs, and the Southwestern Enforcement and Rights Services Criminal Justice Planning District, of which Macon County is a part. Assistance will be brought to the region through an office which opened in Asheville in September, 1970.

Regarding patrolling procedures, the entire community is patrolled on schedule during the day, and at night concentration is made on the high value Central Business District. An addition of two more men would be especially welcome at night, as heretofore stated, to augment community-wide night patrolling, especially during the summer months, when the community experiences an influx of tourists.

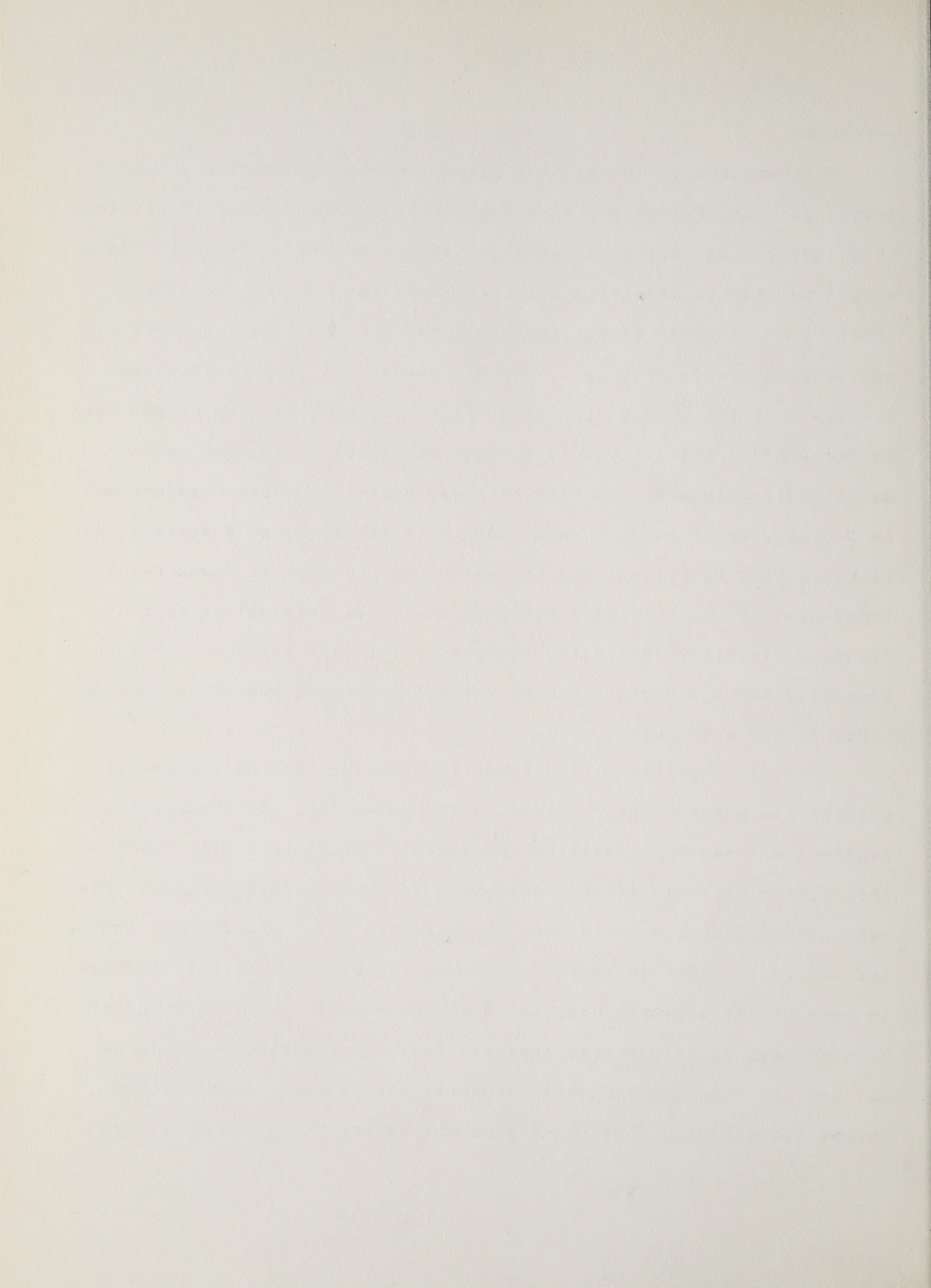
The Department has three patrol cars, two new, and one a year old. These should be replaced every two years, due to extensive usage, and three new ones should be purchased for the two proposed



patrolmen.

Communications consist of a private answering service which serves both the Police and Fire Departments. The service is provided by a lady who maintains phones and a fire siren in her house. Plans should be made to install a more permanent service, in the County Court House (through cooperation with the Sheriff's Department's new Court House facilities). The Department has direct radio connection with the County Sheriff's Office and with its own patrol cars in the field. Efforts should be made to establish two-way radio contact directly with the State Highway Patrol in North Carolina and in Georgia, which borders Macon County to the south at a distance of 17 miles from Franklin. The Law and Order Division of North Carolina Department of Local Affairs (through the local Criminal Justice Planning District) could give assistance for this purpose. This communication aid would keep the Police Department posted on developments in the surrounding area.

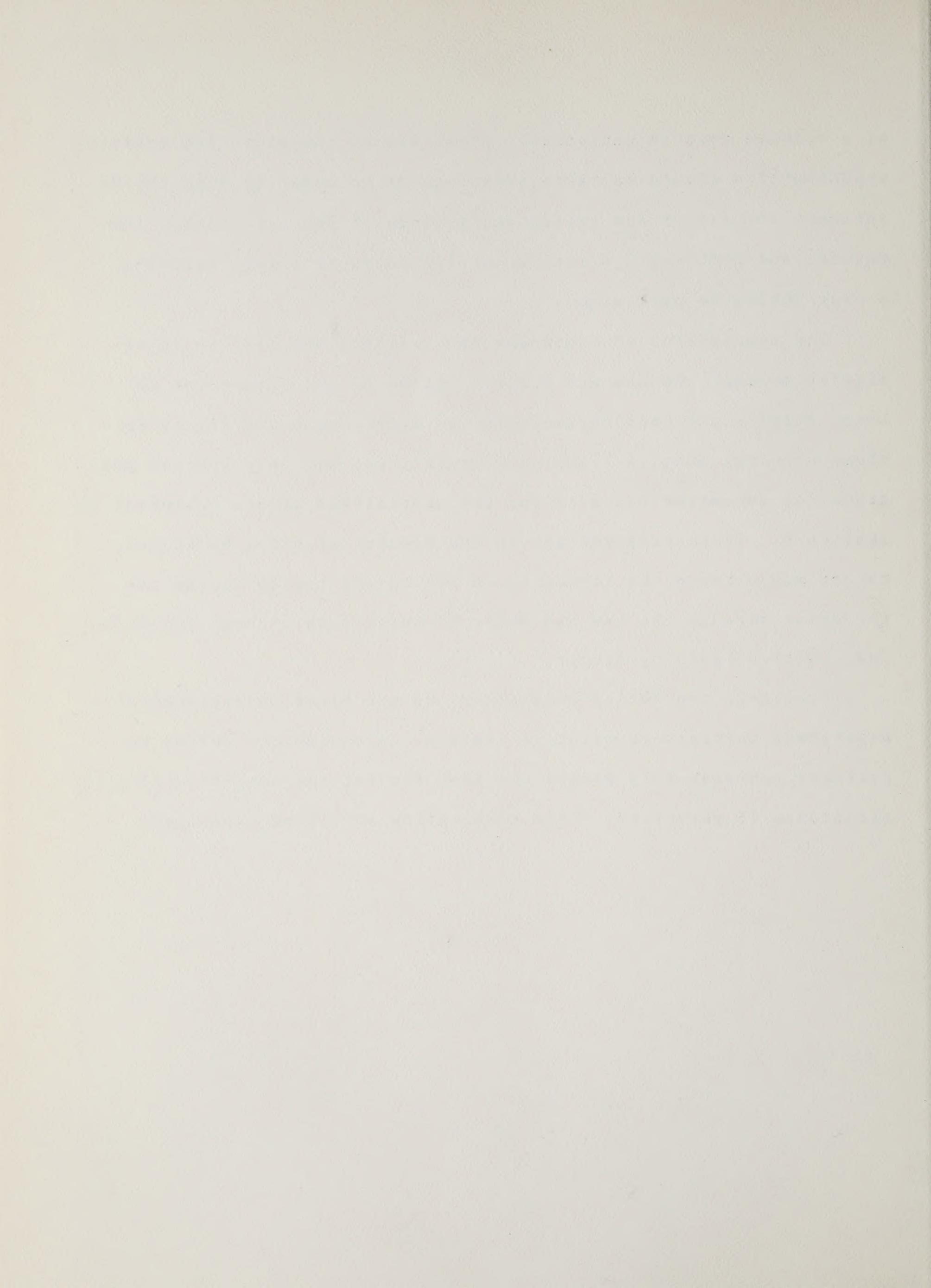
Overall, the Police Department is managing to keep abreast of present law enforcement problems in the community, but increases in manpower and equipment will be necessary to maintain a high level of enforcement capability. New equipment is most urgently needed. Present police radios are old and not operating well; new two-way radios are needed in order to extend policeman capability. If the increase in manpower is accomplished, the Department will need two new patrol cars to step up enforcement capabilities. An alternative could be the use of three wheel Cushman scooters for business district and intown patrolling. This would give the Police Department mobility



at a reduced cost in equipment. Also, better education and training opportunities should be taken advantage of in order to keep the Department abreast of new trends and methods of law enforcement procedures and problems. A minimum of 120 hours of formal training a year should be maintained.

The acquisition of equipment and training may also be investigated through the Law and Order Division of the Department of Local Affairs and the Southwestern Law Enforcement and Rights Services Criminal Justice Planning District, who not only sponsor programs for education but also for the acquisition of new equipment at less cost. These programs are in the process of being developed, but it may behoove the community to follow the trends in law enforcement through the Law and Order Division, and through the Criminal Justice Planning Agency.

Presently the Police Department and the Macon County Sheriff's Department maintain cooperative liaison. Although the Police Department operates only within the town limits, the Sheriff will give assistance if requested. This cooperation should be continued.



FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is provided the Town of Franklin by the Franklin Volunteer Fire Department. This Department is located in the Fire Station, within the Town Hall.

The Department's facilities consist of the above mentioned station, housing two American LaFrance Pumper Trucks, vintage 1955 and 1968, and a small kitchen, for use during training sessions and after fire runs. The Department owns a third truck, a 1939 Chevrolet model, which is kept in reserve. The two active trucks have carrying capabilities of 750 and 500 gallons respectively, which are adequate for most in-town and rural calls. The surrounding service radius will be dealt with in a later section of this report.

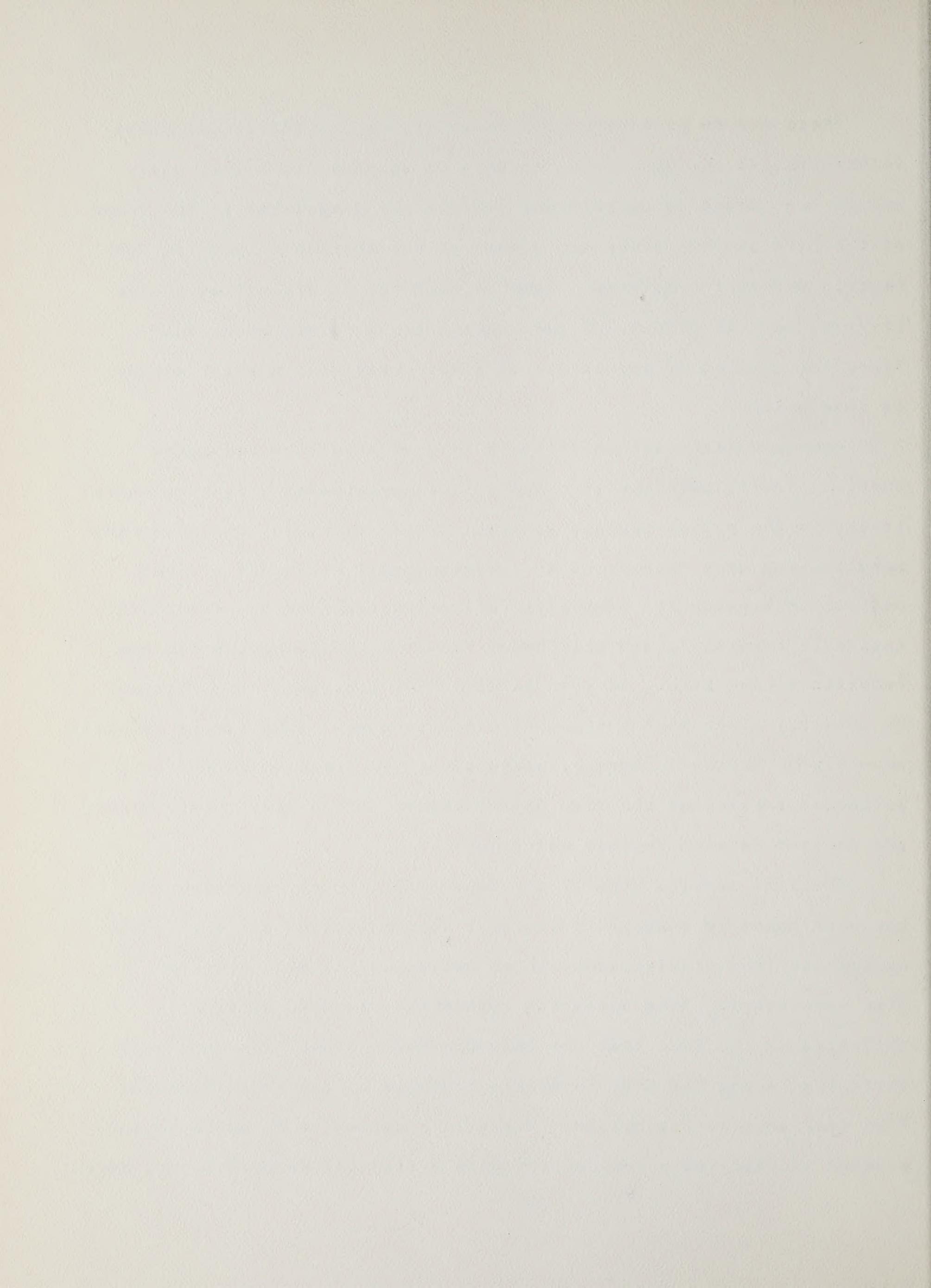
Normally one active vehicle is sent on a call and the other one is retained at the station to maintain active service protection in the interim. The third pumper vehicle would be utilized if both active trucks are out on runs.

Manpower consists of twenty-two volunteers and one Fire Chief, who doubles as a building inspector. (This function as it relates to fire protection also will be dealt with in the latter part of this report). Training is provided monthly at the station to maintain operating skills and new volunteers are sent to Southwestern Technical Institute at Sylva to receive a sixty hour course in the techniques of modern fire fighting. These measures aimed at both in-service training and academic practices have been successful in maintaining a qualified volunteer staff. The members of this staff are therefore in a position to assume each other's duties if the need arises.

There are no procedures for establishing a shift system among volunteers; as the men arrive on duty in response to a fire call, enough men needed to operate one vehicle are dispatched to the scene of the fire and the other men remain at the station to provide protection during the interim. Some of them may be dispatched to the previous call if needed and the reserve truck is posted on duty. Since the turnout of volunteers is almost complete, a shift system is unnecessary.

Communications are established through a private answering service serving both the fire and police departments. As previously stated in the police report, an invalid lady maintains the answering service, and upon receipt of an emergency call activates a siren audible throughout the community (all volunteers and the Fire Chief reside in Franklin), and telephones the Fire Chief, giving him the location of the fire. As soon as the chief arrives at the station, he cuts the siren when enough volunteers arrive. This system operates smoothly at present; however, steps should be taken to establish a permanent service at the Town Hall to serve in the near future before the present service becomes unavailable.

The fire service area of the department is too extensive for the department to adequately protect; it consists of all the county except the Town of Highlands, which maintains its own volunteer fire department. This situation regarding area wide service is reflected in the fact that the unincorporated county does not even warrant a rating for fire insurance coverage by the North Carolina Fire Insurance rating bureau. Franklin's rating is 8, which is considered average for a town of Franklin's size (R. Kenneth Scott, North



Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau). This means that the unincorporated county area will be paying the highest possible insurance for fire coverage. Although a pumper is left operable with attendant crew at the station when an out-of-town call is received, the chances of more calls within the high value business district or industries in Franklin could leave the town without adequate protection while one of the two crews is answering a fire somewhere in the county. This situation definitely works a hardship on men and equipment regarding Franklin's ability to serve the community. Also, the chance of a call somewhere else in the county could leave the town without coverage. An agreement has been reached whereby a property owner in the county will pay the department \$75.00 per call if served. This renumeration is rarely received by the department, which in itself could be crippling to department finances since the town alone supports the department through volunteers and tax revenues.

These above facts lead one to one conclusion; the town should cut off service to the county area; and it should be the responsibility of County government to finance protection for the unincorporated County. The implementation of this recommendation should generate interest in the rural areas for County-funded fire protection. The two pumper trucks utilized by the department at present is deemed adequate for in-town service. However, the 1955 truck should be replaced before 1975; the N. C. F. I. R. B. will not count equipment as adequate if such equipment is over twenty years old. A two-way radio system should be established on all trucks in order that the various crews may be in constant radio contact with each

other. Also, the present alert and answering system should be revised since the present system can only be temporary; an augmented system of alert should be established by the use of a phone alert system supplementing the siren to insure contact being made with all volunteers.

Two factors enter into fire protection which are not directly controllable by the department; water service and building inspection. The first, present water service, is inadequate since many of the water mains are old and deteriorating, and many of the mains are less than six inches in diameter. Both factors cause water pressure to drop below that which is needed for adequate protection in the town. A rebuilt system is a must, and this situation will be dealt with in the utilities section of this report; the purpose here is to point out the fact that the water system is inadequate both for the present situation and for future service. This fact is known to industries in the area and could have a dire effect upon the community if the situation persists; both from an economic point of view, and more importantly, from a life-saving point of view. At present the fire chief does not know where all the hydrants are in Franklin. This can be found through various utility reports made for the water system and by personal inspection. The department should have a map of the community with all hydrants specifically located. In addition, each hydrant should be numbered, both on the hydrant and the map. Also, every hydrant should be tested once a year for fire flow, and static and residual pressure. Once a month, each hydrant should be greased and opened for ease of operation.

The second factor is the lack of an adequate building inspection program; this has the effect of allowing structures to be erected which violate building codes presently enacted but not adequately enforced. Also, the knowledge of the extent of the high-volume commercial and industrial areas is unknown by the chief, which would leave an important reason for expansion of fire service unjustified. The present system of building inspection is comprised of the fire chief making inspections on a part-time basis for the payment of one dollar per building. Although the fire chief is knowledgeable of the building codes, a dollar per inspection is inadequate for reimbursement purposes. A full-time inspector should be appointed and the fees should be increased to reflect the costs incurred. The North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau last examined Franklin's Fire Department in 1957. They had no recommendations to make at that time. However, they will visit Franklin and assess present needs if local officials contact the Bureau. It is recommended that the Mayor contact R. Kenneth Scott, Chief Engineer, N. C. F. I. R. B., Raleigh, for a present appraisal once Franklin cuts protection from the County area.

These above mentioned recommendations for the upgrading of the fire department will provide the community with better fire protection, not only for the present situation, but also for the enhancement of the community's chances in its efforts to accomodate added industrial growth and a better living environment for the citizens of Franklin.

RESCUE SQUAD

Emergency rescue assistance and ambulance service are provided the citizens of Franklin and surrounding Macon County by the Macon Search and Rescue Squad, a volunteer organization, financed through county-wide donations, and an annual sum from the County Commissioners.

The Rescue Squad is located approximately one-half mile west of Franklin's town limits at the intersection of U. S. Highway 64 and State Road 1154, adjacent to the Macon County Board of Education School Bus Garage.

The headquarters of the Rescue Squad is a newly built concrete building completed in late March, 1970. The building contains two bays for emergency vehicles designed on the principle of a fire house. Headquartered at the building are the squad's 1968 Chevrolet Step-Van (capable of negotiating rough terrain), Jeep, two boats, and the complement of rescue gear (resuscitation equipment, ropes, ladders, etc.) Two ambulances used by the Rescue Squad are on loan from the two funeral homes in Franklin.

Contact is made for rescue service through the County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff vests police power in the squad for emergency situations. The squad is comprised of eighteen volunteers. Training for new volunteers is offered by the Ambulance Attendants E03 and E04 classes and Fire Training classes at the Southwestern Technical Institute at Sylva, North Carolina. The squad meets monthly to train members, and the squad has two certified first aid instructors to offer on-the-job training to members.

Although the building housing the squad is satisfactory for the planning period, the gravel entrance to S. R. 1154 should be paved

in order that the operations will not be impaired in inclement weather. Also, more parking space; preferably 50 cars in emergencies, is needed at the present site.

For efficient operations eight more volunteers are needed and more on-the-job training is needed to further familiarize the volunteers with the equipment. New and varied types of uniforms for both winter and summer are needed, and tables and chairs should be acquired for use in the building. Communication by direct two-way radio should be established with all the vehicles the squad uses, and with police, fire and other public safety agencies in the area to maintain liaison with assisting agencies.

The present system of financing through county-wide donations will be inadequate to fund needed improvements. It is suggested that the county allocate a modest yearly budget for the maintenance of the rescue squad.

These recommendations should bring the squad to a higher level of competence, for the increase of tourist activity in Macon County, and, consequently, the increased potential for accidents throughout the area.

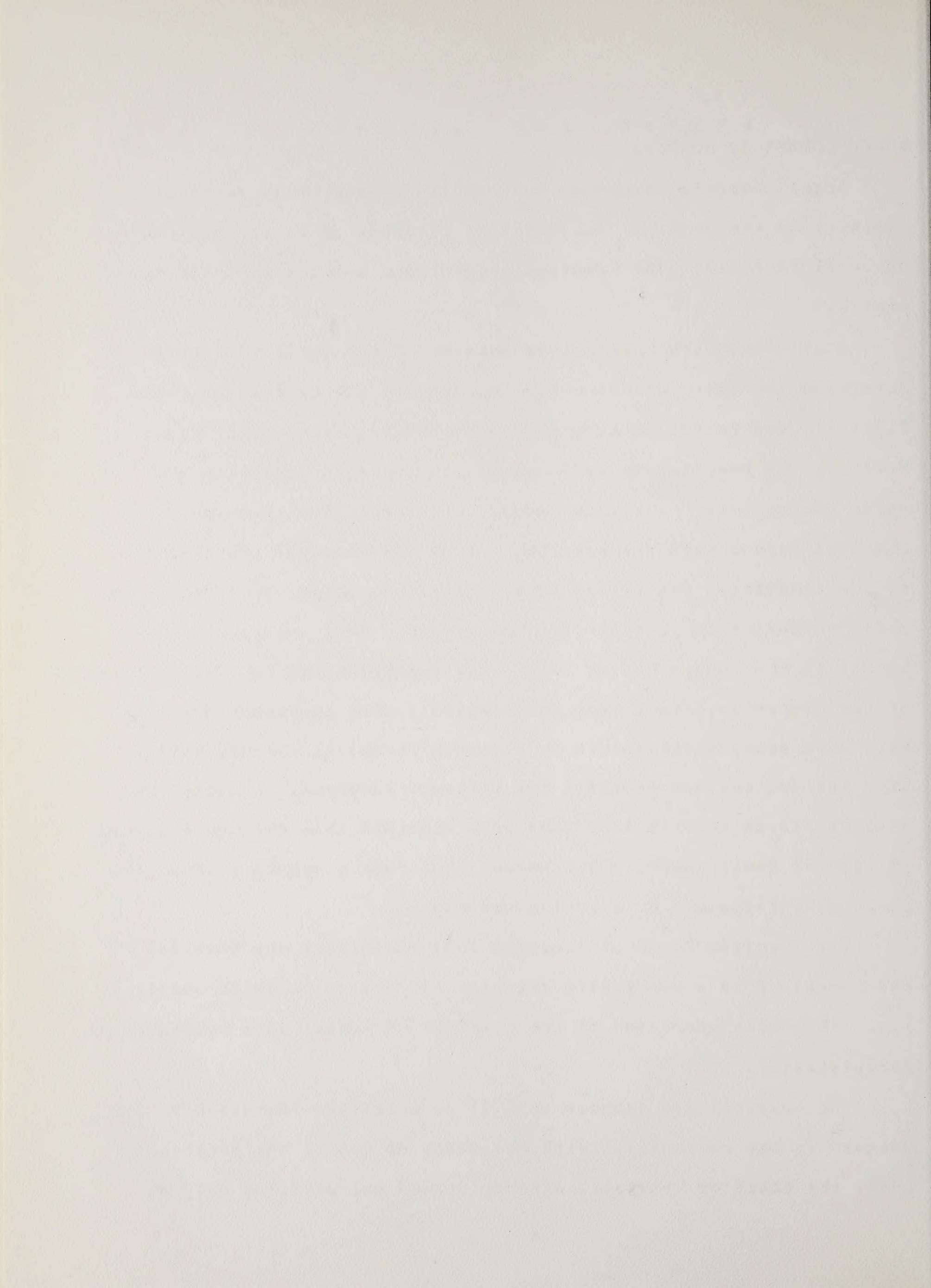
H E A L T H A N D W E L F A R E
ANGEL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Angel Community Hospital in Franklin is the chief hospital facility in the county. The hospital is operated by an appointed Board of Trustees. The Trustees appoint new members as their terms expire.

Angel Community Hospital is located at the intersection of Riverview and White Oak Streets, adjacent to the Central Business District, and to the primary east-west thoroughfare, Main Street. However, the hospital is buffered by its own open land from the noise and activity of both areas. The intersection location, combined with a buffered position, makes the hospital convenient to the community, yet allows it to maintain a quiet, secluded atmosphere conducive to patient-care operations. This location is enhanced by the County Health Clinic and the Wayah Medical Clinic situated across Riverview Street from the hospital, thus complementary land uses have grouped themselves in a natural complex, thereby saving time for doctors and patients for referral purposes. Luckily, the various health service land uses have achieved this through a natural pattern of development; a phenomenon that rarely occurs without the thorough enforcement of a zoning ordinance.

The Hospital Board of Trustees that administer the hospital are organized as a non-profit organization under the North Carolina law. The daily operation of the hospital is vested in a professional administrator.

The hospital was founded in 1925 as a private operation by two doctors in the community. With the death of one of the doctors in 1966, the Board of Trustees, already formed but existing only on

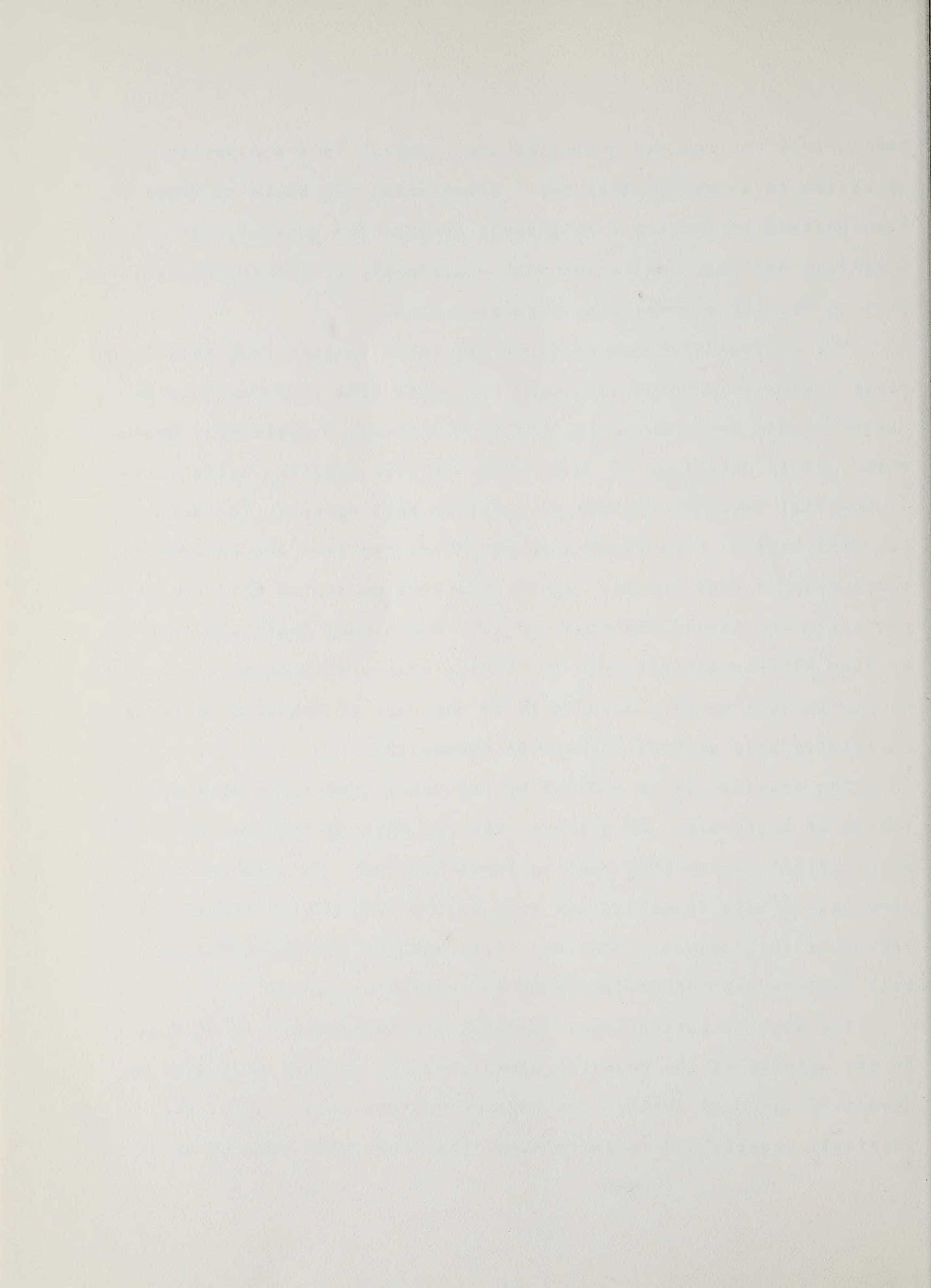


paper, took control and converted the hospital from a proprietary operation to a truly public one. Since then, the Board of Trustees have decided to develop a long-range program for expansion to the hospital, and have contracted with a professional hospital consultant firm to develop a long-range expansion plan.

The following recommendations are taken in part from this long-range expansion program developed for Angel Community Hospital by Jacque Norman and Associates, Hospital Planning Consultants, Greenville, South Carolina, in July, 1969. A more detailed description of hospital improvements may be found in this report. The North Carolina Medical Care Commission has concurred with the recommendations made in this report. Recommendations presented here are those primarily considered important to the town's comprehensive planning program wherein medical care facilities play a salient role regarding community development, especially in the case of Franklin where these facilities have grouped themselves naturally.

The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. At present, the accrediting team is surveying the hospital for another routine investigation. Unfortunately, the findings of this investigation will not be made public before publication of this report. However, it is assumed the accrediting team will amplify recommendations made in the Norman report.

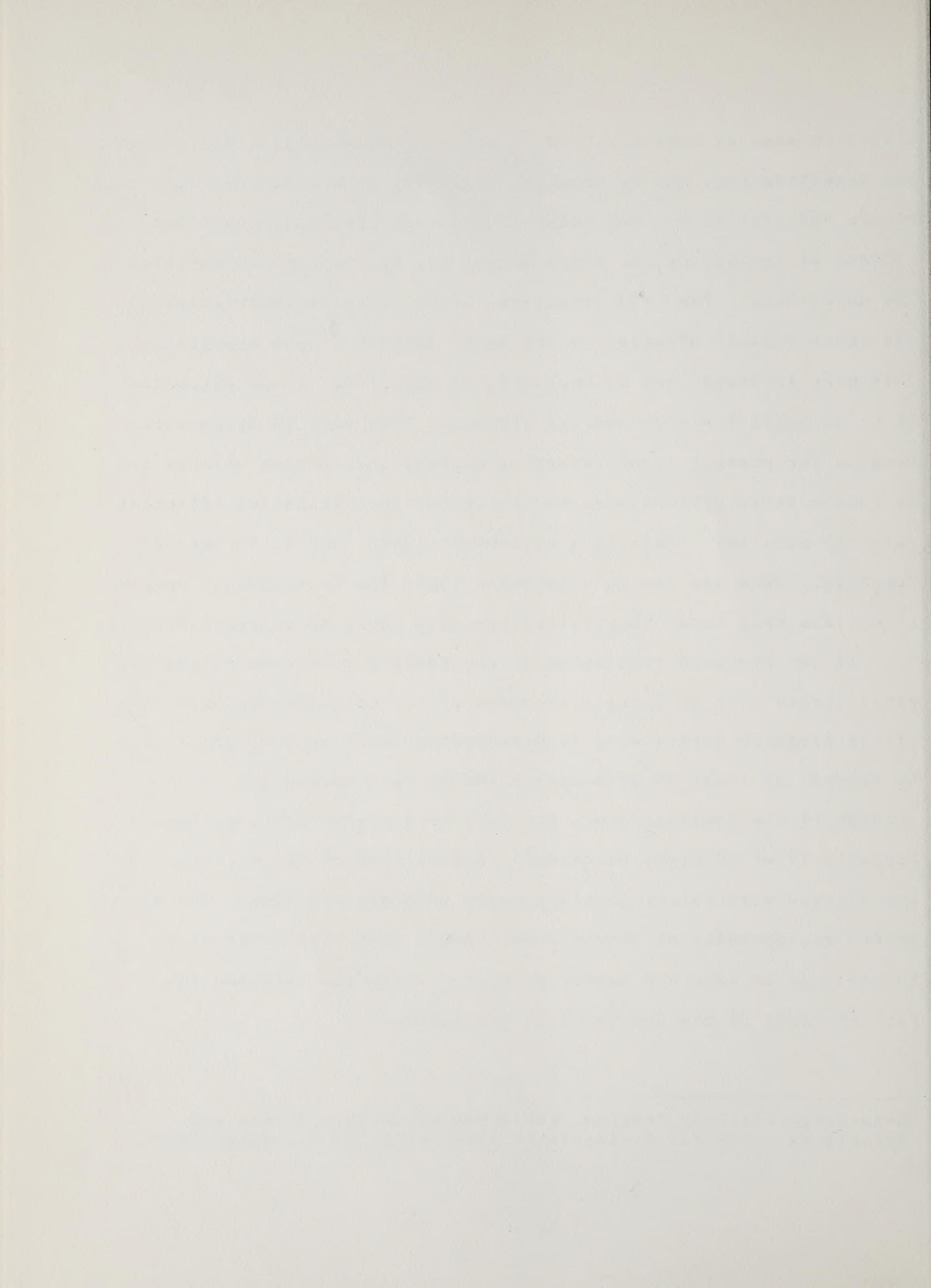
The present patient care capacity of the hospital is 44 beds. In the opinion of the hospital administrator, 16 more beds will be needed in the near future; the present patient care wing of the hospital, constructed in parts from 1925-1940, will need to be re-



placed as soon as possible. It is not only structurally deficient and deteriorating, but is obsolete regarding modern patient care techniques and practices. The Board of Trustees have made continued efforts at renovating the older structure, but it has now outlived its usefulness. The 1958 structure, which contains administration and other medical offices, is the newer section of the hospital. This wing is sound, but is operating at capacity. A new extension is being built for more medical offices. This need is accentuated because the present trend regarding medical out-patient offices is to locate these offices next to in-patient facilities for efficient referral purposes. This is a nationwide trend, and it is felt in Franklin. This has led to a definite trend for Macon County people to utilize this local hospital rather than those in adjacent counties.¹

If the proposed rebuilding of the patient care wing of the hospital occurs with an overall increase of at least 16 more beds, and if the proposed office wing is constructed, more parking space will be needed; at least 20 more spaces should be constructed, in the opinion of the administrator, and this is a conservative estimate. Probably 30 or 40 might be needed. Acquisition of ten more doctors and fifteen more nurses should provide adequate staffing. The aforesated recommendations should enable Angel Community Hospital to function in an expanded manner to better serve the extended in-patient needs of the community in the future.

¹ Long-Range Planning Program, published by Jacques Norman and Associates, Hospital Consultants, Greenville, S. C., July, 1969.



One area of close involvement to a hospital, but not necessarily one of its chief functions, has been the extended care of the elderly. At present, there is a rest home in Franklin but it is insufficient to handle the increasing number of elderly patients. Therefore, the hospital has become such a center, although this function was not anticipated several years ago. The community has two alternatives; either to add more beds through the hospital expansion program for elderly care, or to construct a public nursing home adjacent to the hospital and its ancillary health and medical facilities. The former alternative might be most viable for Franklin. The hospital has seen a need for this service and is in favor of expanding to meet this need.

MACON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The Department of Social Services for Franklin and Macon County are headquartered in a two-story building (constructed in the early twenties) across the street from, and to the north of the present County Court House. The building has many structural deficiencies and is not suited to public use. This problem will be alleviated when the county builds a planned new court house, next to the existing structure. The offices of the Department of Social Services are programmed to be moved to the new County Court House.

The various services offered by the Department are as follows: receives and processes applications for all types of public assistance, such as aide to the aged, disabled, blind, and families with dependent children. Medical and financial assistance only is given in the foregoing categories.

The Department also acquires and places babies for adoption, studies and approves/disapproves applications for adoption by

prospective parents, foster homes, and works with unwed mothers needing social assistance.

The Department has working relationships with probation counselors from the county juvenile court, social security representatives for referrals, and refers prospective candidates to appropriate agencies for assistance regarding vocational rehabilitation services. The Department also works with veterans and utilizes assistance from the county veterans service officer. Other State and local agencies are utilized when necessary.

Close relationships are established with the Community Action Agency, the Macon Program for Progress, in order to facilitate programs aimed at poverty and unemployment problems existing in the Macon County area. The Department also regulates and disperses surplus food commodities for distribution to citizens needing such assistance.

The Social Services Department has implemented various new programs in responses to new opportunities offered by State and Federal agencies. The county should authorize three additional case workers to help implement these programs at the present time.

MACON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Macon County Health Department provides the citizens of Franklin and the county numerous public health related services. The facilities are housed in a one story brick structure of recent construction (1957), with a public parking lot at the rear for patients and referrals.

These offices are across the street from the hospital, allowing easy communication and referral services between these two medical-related institutions. Further access and communications between these two agencies is encouraged by the County and the Hospital Board of Trustees, to the benefit of the community and county. This advantageous situation was previously mentioned in the section on Angel Community Hospital, but it is mentioned once more to emphasize the relationship.

The scope of health-related services currently offered Macon County citizens are divided into three sections at the Department, the environmental health section, the nursing section and the secretarial section. The environmental health section is charged with grading all food handling and lodging establishments, as well as schools and school lunchrooms in the county. This section also counsels individuals in the installation of sewer and water utility systems, and is in charge of providing the county with effective environmental health control.

The Nursing section is in charge of the general immunization of individuals in the county. This section is also maintaining a well-baby clinic, X-Ray clinic, Eye clinic and various other public

health-related services. The nursing clinic is also charged with the administration of the county school health program, in cooperation with the Superintendent of Macon County Schools.

The secretarial section handles general and administrative clerical work as well as being responsible for the proper filing of all birth and death certificates in the county. With the ever increasing shortage of physicians, the local Health Department's efforts are becoming more important for the alleviation of health and medical needs of the people of Macon County.

The first need of the Department is an expansion of the building to permit much needed office space, storage room, better laboratory facilities and examination rooms.

Future plans for the Department call for expansion of the physical plant, hiring of additional nurses and other health and medical-related personnel, and consequently an expansion of present programs and an emphasis on environmental conditions in the county as the area develops. The Health Director made mention of the fact that adequate regulations regarding land development, such as zoning and subdivision regulations, would help his environmental responsibilities by preventing many situations producing water and air pollution and other environment related situations. In addition, the Macon County Health Department should contact the Department of Water and Air Resources in order to organize a local air pollution abatement district.

P U B L I C W O R K S A N D T R A N S P O R T A T I O N
S T R E E T S

The Town of Franklin maintains 18.06 miles of streets within the town limits. This accumulated mileage does not count the streets through the community that are state maintained.

From the total miles maintained by the Town, 15.33 miles are paved with asphalt or concrete, and 2.73 miles are surfaced with stone or white gravel. No town maintained streets are unimproved.¹ The Town does not plan to acquire any new streets during this paving period (summer of 1970); therefore this report will be primarily concerned with improvements to the existing system. However, if there are routes, that from a planning standpoint should be acquired by the Town, these will be mentioned and an effort will be made to convince the Town to acquire such routes in order to improve access to various developing sections of the community.

At the present time, the Director of Public Works cites 3.15 miles of streets in need of resurfacing or major rebuilding and widening. The chart on the next page details the type of street work needed in the immediate future. This figure does not count the amount of gravel streets in the community; these will be dealt with regarding their role in future community development.

The gravel streets should be paved by the town in order to encourage high quality development and to assure present residents of better access within the community. The present gravel surfaced

¹Information from the Powell Bill data for the Town of Franklin as of July 1, 1969, and information with Public Works Director regarding changes since that date.

streets, as mentioned before, are 2.73 miles. It is evident that the Town of Franklin has previously engaged in a vigorous use of the Powell Bill because, out of a total of 18.06 miles, only some two miles of gravel streets are left to be paved.

STREETS NEEDING RESURFACING, WIDENING OR REBUILDING IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

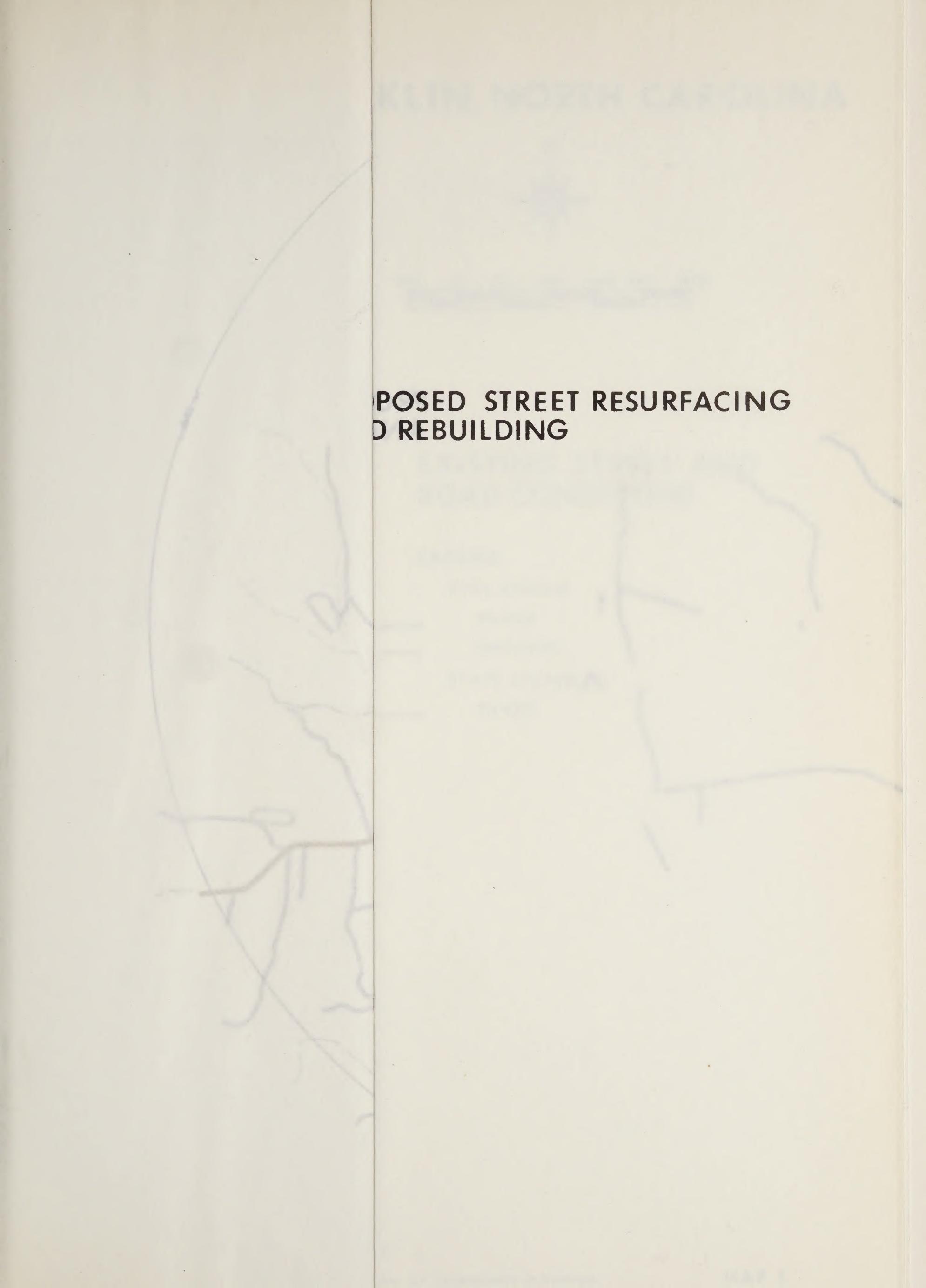
(Refer to map on following page for routes designated)

STREET NAME	DISTANCE		GRAVEL	TYPE OF WORK NEEDED
	TOTAL	PAVED		
BIDWELL STREET	2238 Ft.	2238 Ft.	None	RESURFACING
DERBY STREET	150 Ft.	150 Ft.	None	"
EDGEWOOD STREET	1004 Ft.	1004 Ft.	None	"
HIGHLAND AVENUE	445 Ft.	445 Ft.	None	"
LYLE STREET	2925 Ft.	2925 Ft.	None	"
MEMORIAL CIRCLE	782 Ft.	782 Ft.	None	"
PORTER STREET	700 Ft.	700 Ft.	None	"
RIVERVIEW STREET	4493 Ft.	3263 Ft.	1230 Ft.	REBUILDING ENTIRE LENGTH (Planned for 1971 by town)
WATAUGA STREET	2009 Ft.	2009 Ft.	None	RESURFACING AND WIDENING
WAYAH STREET*	3080 Ft.	3080 Ft.	None	"
WEST ROGERS	843 Ft.	843 Ft.	None	RESURFACING
TOTAL MILEAGE NEEDING STREET WORK IN FRANKLIN - 3.15 miles				

*WAYAH STREET TO BE TAKEN OVER BY STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION AS OF JULY 1, 1970; RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE RELAYED BY TOWN TO STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION AT TIME OF TAKEOVER. JUSTIFICATIONS FOR WIDENING AND RESURFACING ARE AS FOLLOWS:

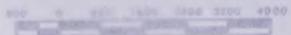
SCHOOL BUSES USE STREET ENROUTE TO AND FROM HIGH SCHOOL; STREET TOO NARROW FOR SAFE PASSAGE; NO ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO HIGH SCHOOL; PAVEMENT BREAKING UP SLOWLY; WILL BECOME CRITICAL UNLESS WIDENING AND RESURFACING PROJECT IS UNDERTAKEN.

Once Franklin meets the repair and resurfacing program outlined, and also embarks on a paving program to rid the community of the last of its gravel streets, Franklin should have an inte-



**POSED STREET RESURFACING
AND REBUILDING**

FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

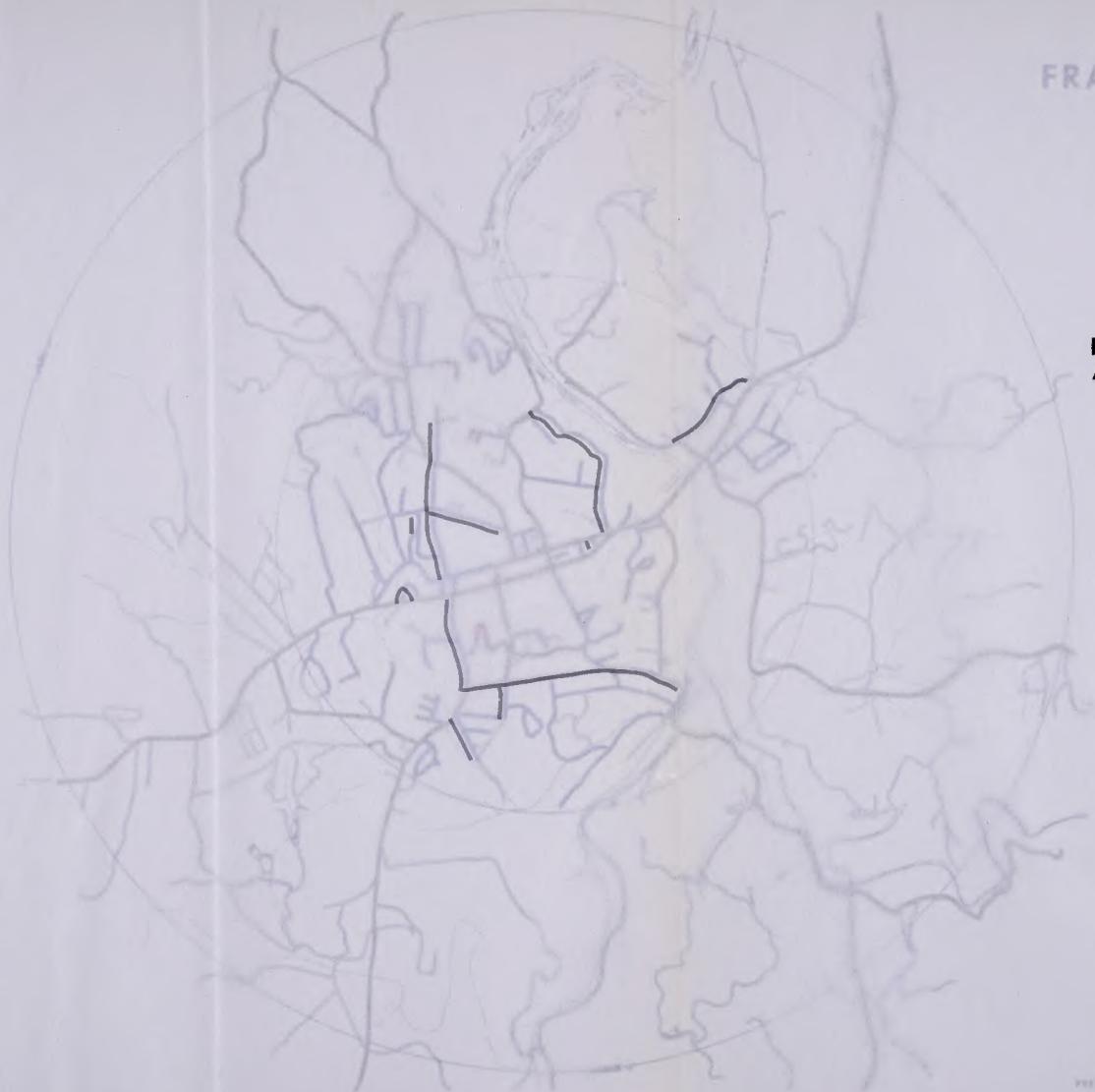


PROPOSED STREET RESURFACING AND REBUILDING

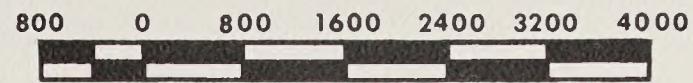
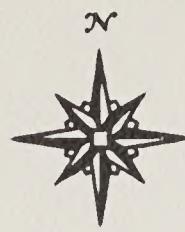
EXISTING STREET AND ROAD CONDITIONS

LEGEND

- CITY SYSTEM
PAVED
SURFACED
- STATE SYSTEM
PAVED



KLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



EXISTING STREET AND ROAD CONDITIONS

LEGEND

CITY SYSTEM

PAVED

UNPAVED

STATE SYSTEM

PAVED



Y:

FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



800 0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000



EXISTING STREET AND ROAD CONDITIONS

LEGEND

CITY SYSTEM

PAVED

UNPAVED

STATE SYSTEM

PAVED

PREPARED BY:

N. C. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

MAP 1

grated street system; capable of meeting its local traffic needs in the future. This is the case especially in Franklin since most of the developable land is presently urbanized, and, consequently, very few new streets are needed for establishment in the community, except to continue existing routes where dead-ends now exist. The efforts to be made by Town regarding the revised thoroughfare plan will be pointed out in this report.

As stated in the proposed land development plan, several dead-end streets should be extended to provide through traffic, such as Highland Avenue, Love Street, and Summit Drive.¹ Other proposals would be extending of South Porter to Edgewood, and connecting Rodgers and West Rodgers, and the extension of Harrison Avenue to Palmer Street.

The Thoroughfare Plan (on following page) is being revised as part of the Land Development Plan. The Land Development Plan evaluates and determines the scope of the new, revised, or added routes and the attendant justification. This report will point out how the Town may begin the implementation of the Plan. The most feasible way in which the Town may initiate the proposals is to purchase properties necessary for the construction of the proposed route.² These are known as "stub out" parcels. These properties are usually at proposed intersections of routes, and without public title on these lots, the chances of building the routes are slim at best.

¹Land Development Plan, Franklin, N. C., Div. of Community Planning, Preliminary Report, March, 1970.

²Refer to Revised Thoroughfare Plan.

STUB-OUT PARCELS AND STOPLIGHTS

LEGEND

-  **STUB-OUT PARCELS**
-  **STOPLIGHTS**

FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

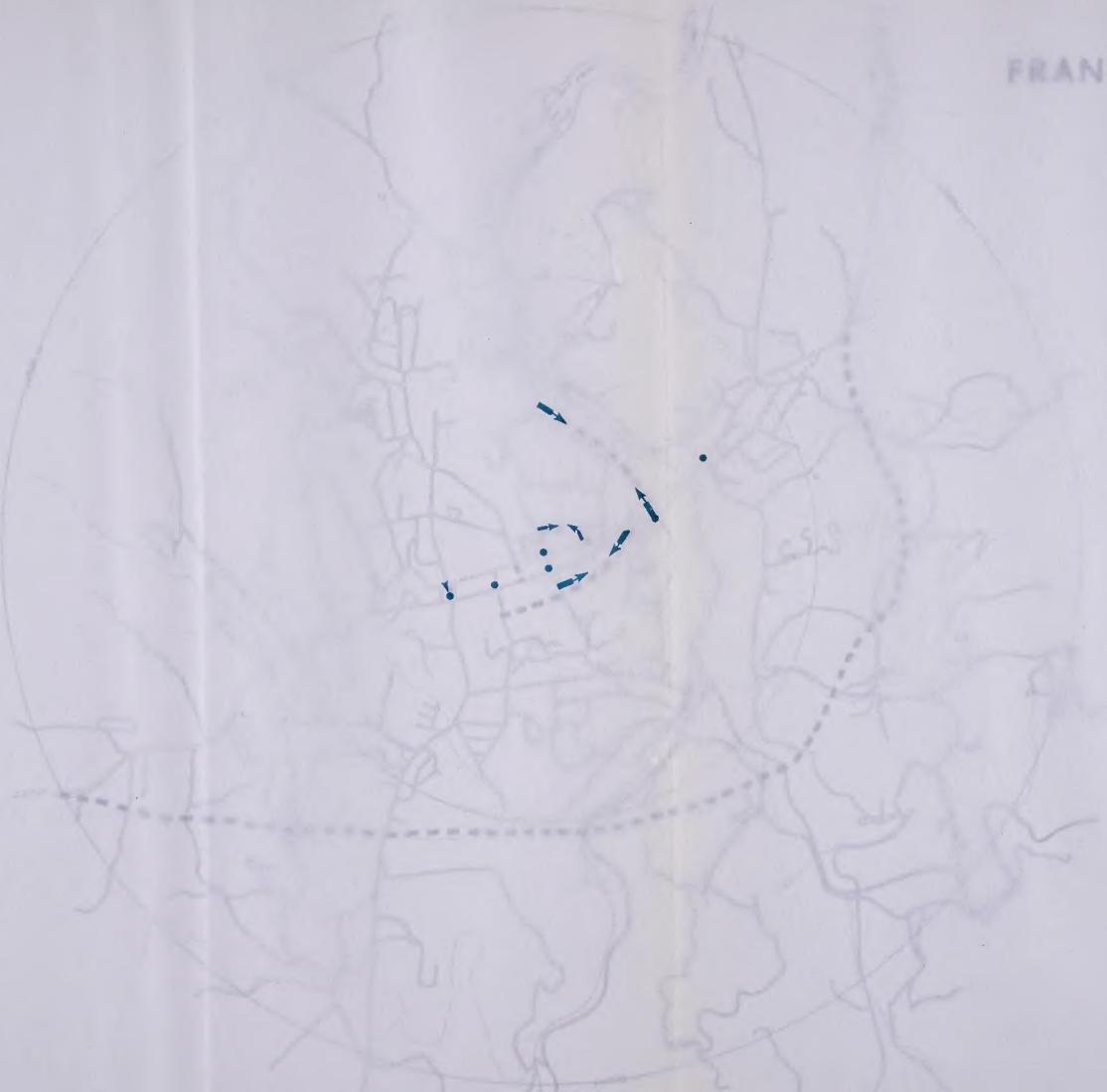


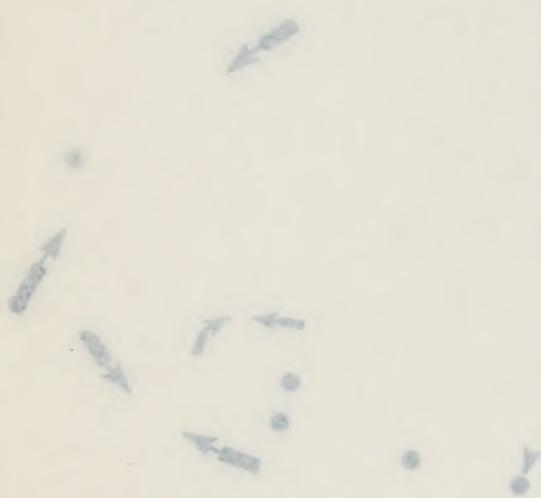
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**STUB-OUT PARCELS
AND STOPLIGHTS**
~~MASTER ZONING PLAN~~ PLAN 1970

LEGEND

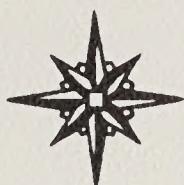
- STUB-OUT PARCELS
- STOPLIGHTS



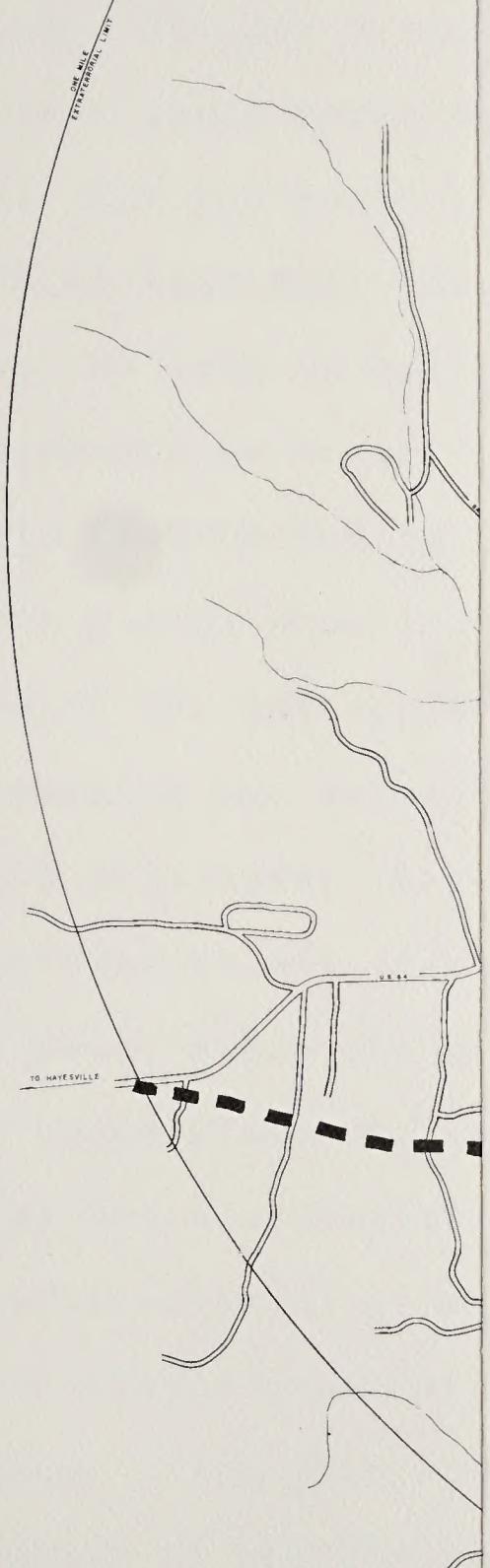


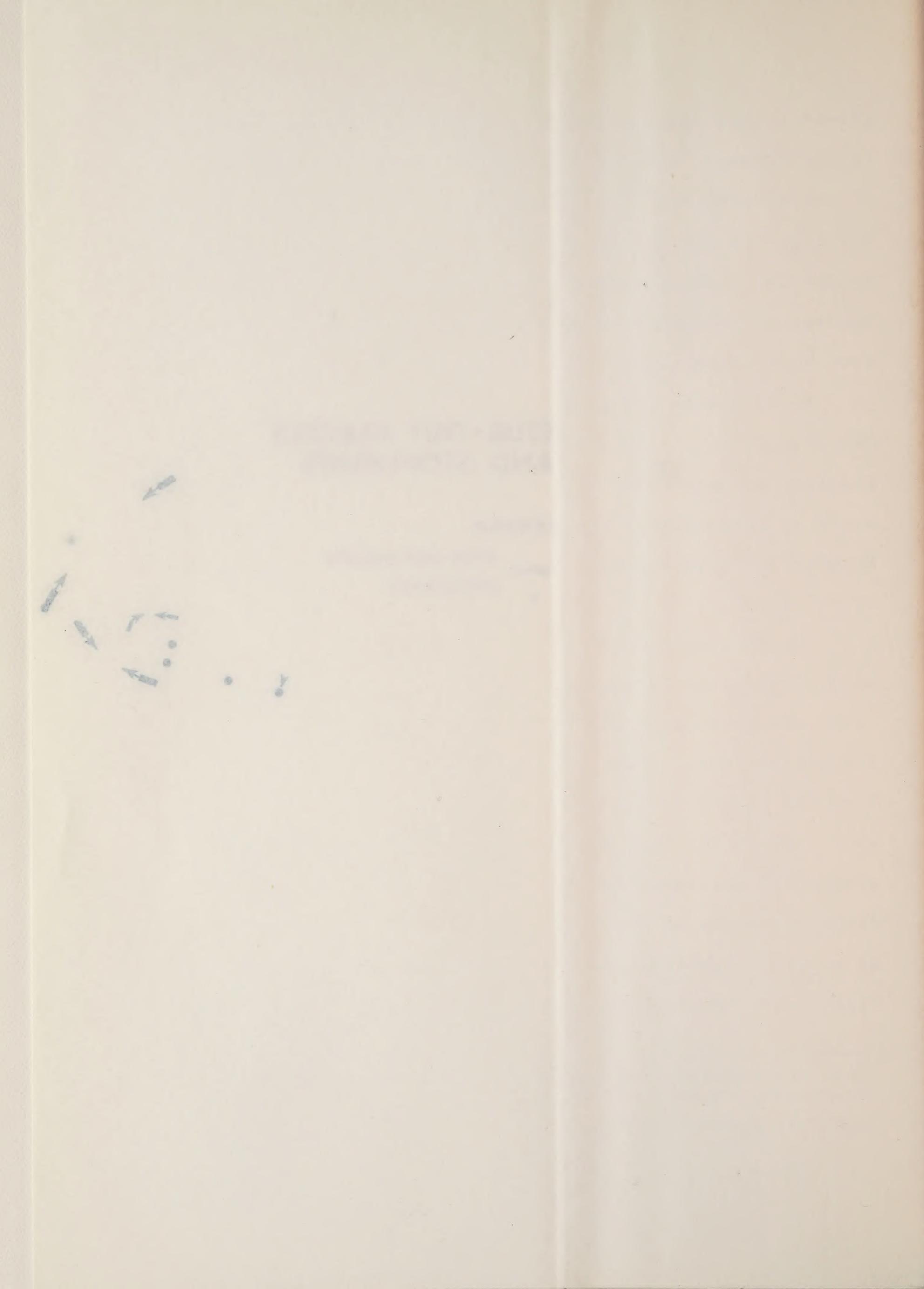
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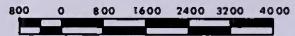


SUGGESTED ALTERNATE THOROUGHFARE PLAN 1970





FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



SUGGESTED ALTERNATE
THOROUGHFARE PLAN 1970



For the route paralleling Palmer Street to the south, the lots at the southwest corner of East Main and Mill Street should be purchased, and at the west end of the route, the property on the east side of Phillips Street should be bought. For the Bidwell Street - Maple Street route, the parcels just west of Maple, between West Main and West Palmer should be bought. This route primarily consists of widening work and the aforementioned parcels should be the only ones needed. Without them, however, this route will not be completed, since these parcels consist of the connector between Bidwell and Maple. For the route paralleling Riverview, the parcels on the north side of East Main (at the south end of this route) and the parcels at the turn at Iotla Street, north of its intersection with Riverview should be bought. For the route between East Main and North Iotla (behind and to the north of the Central Business District) the various parcel acquisitions needed will have to be done in conjunction with the businessmen. This also applies for the need of combined parking and unloading zones behind the Central Business District in this area. Regarding stop and yield signs; these are properly placed at all intersections. Reflecting green street signs should be used, since the present white ones are wearing out. Street trees are commonplace in residential areas, but are not existent in the Central Business District. The Townlift Program recommends proper installation of street trees for this area, and the town and businessmen should cooperate in installing these through the Townlift Program. With this policy, the town should be able to initiate implementation of the revised Thoroughfare Plan on a local basis.

STORM DRAINAGE

The following streets at present have storm drainage systems: Main Street, Porter Street and Phillips Street. Conditions of the mains are sound, and routine maintenance should suffice. The foregoing streets traverse the Central Business District. The rest of the Central Business District streets are curbed and drain into the aforementioned system.

The streets adjacent to the high school and junior high complex should also be equipped. These would be McCullum Drive and the access way passing south of the high school building. This would alleviate any chances of street flooding in this area. The streets around the junior and senior high school complex could be connected with the existing system at South Porter Street, or they could be run downhill in concrete ditches to a branch traversing the area between the educational complex and the Central Business District. The former alternative would be the best, in order to alleviate consequent run off erosion from the new system. As the community urbanizes in the one mile area, subdivision regulations should be adopted specifying curb and gutter requirements in order to assure storm drainage in subsequent developments.

The rest of Franklin is drained by either curbs or swales. This has not presented a serious problem in the community in the past, but as the area further develops, storm drainage may become a serious problem, and steps (such as the aforementioned subdivision regulations) should be taken to assure storm drainage in the future. Regarding the previously mentioned swales and curbs, these should

continue to be maintained; the curbs and major swales by the Town and the smaller ditches by abutting property owners and the Town, cooperating, as streets are resurfaced or rebuilt. The Town should consider the installment of curbs and gutters as an automatic occurrence during street reconstruction; especially regarding such streets as Riverview, non-sewered sections of Porter, and Wayah Streets (Wayah to be maintained by the State). An on-going program such as this, incorporated into street maintenance, and the previously mentioned adoption of subdivision regulations (this farsighted measure cannot be over-stated) should enable the Town to establish and retain an adequate storm drainage system encompassing the community throughout the planning period.

SANITATION

The Town of Franklin provides weekly garbage pickup service to residential areas, and daily garbage pickup service to businesses and industries.

The operations are based out of the Town Hall and consist of three crew members and one 1966 Ford side-loader garbage truck, and a new truck packer recently purchased. The new truck is a 1970 International Harvester side, hand, and mechanical loader with a capacity of 23 cubic yards.

At present, two trucks are adequate to serve the town and the landfill should be adequate for use for ten to fifteen years. It is planned to maintain the old truck in a reserve capacity for use if mechanical difficulties arise which incapacitate the new truck.

Over a twenty year period, Franklin should gain enough new

development to warrant another active truck, and another landfill in approximately ten to fifteen years. The present landfill is located north of town on Lake Emory Road, outside the planning area. Another site in this general area might be chosen after the county has received data regarding future plans, when the study of county landfill operations in early 1971, is completed by the North Carolina Board of Health. In this regard, it may be advantageous to Franklin to combine solid waste disposal efforts with the county in the near future.

WATER SYSTEM

The Town of Franklin water system has been in operation since 1910; when the first well was dug and the first water lines were established to serve the community. The system is under the Director of Public Works.

The sole source of the water supply are eleven wells giving an untreated supply. The output varies widely throughout the year, and rarely are all the wells operating. During the summer, heavy use of the system has exceeded the capacity. This tendency to underproduce during heavy use has affected the community noticeably, especially regarding fire protection. Also, the Town is besieged by citizen complaints regarding water flow for drinking, sanitation, and air conditioning purposes. It is evident that the current well source is not sufficient and another primary source, such as a reservoir, should be considered. The Town has contracted to an engineering firm for study of alternatives, and this study is presently underway.¹

¹ Study by Barbot & Associates, no completion date given.

Since the initial system was built in 1910, many of the lines and some of the pumping equipment are old and deteriorating; the equipment, especially, is obsolete for present demands. Also, as stated in the previous paragraph, the water is untreated and this may pose a health problem if the water table sinks further due to increased demands. Also, if the needed new source for water is established, such as a reservoir, treatment will be absolutely necessary. As new lines are installed, chlorination is utilized. This is a stop-gap alternative which should be examined for the entire system.

Many of the lines, especially the older ones, have one and a quarter inch diameters, which will not provide adequate flow for heavy use and certainly will not provide a fire flow pressure for adequate fire protection. The minimum size for lines should be six inches, in order to meet the minimum demands for fire flow and municipal service. The population projection for Franklin indicates a 1990 population of approximately 7,500.¹ Fire flow recommended by the American Insurance Association for a population of 7,500 is 2,700 gallons per minute. A ten hour period would be 1,600,000 gallons per day.

It is estimated² that the Franklin water system may be called upon to supply much of the Franklin urban area for several miles beyond the present town limits as the community grows, with water for normal use and fire protection.

¹ Barbot & Associates, Water System Study, November, 1969

² Ibid.

1990 Total Requirements

Domestic Demand (Town)	750,000 Gal. per day
Domestic Demand (outside Town)	375,000 Gal. per day
Industrial Demand	240,000 Gal. per day
Fire Demand	<u>1,600,000 Gal. per day</u>
	2,965,000 Gal. per day

It is proposed to increase water storage capacity by 500,000 gallons from the existing 953,000 gallons in the present standpipe system to 1,453,000 gallons (note that this is a doubling of capacity). Therefore, the required capacity of the new water supply facilities is:¹

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,965,000 \text{ gallons} \\ - 1,453,000 \text{ gallons} \\ \hline 1,512,000 \text{ gallons} \end{array}$$

A design capacity of 1.5 million gallons per day would meet the projection for domestic demands established for fire protection. As is practically always the case, the design of improvements must necessarily be a compromise between the actual need and economic feasibility.²

Another source for water supply should be sought to replace the present well system, as stated in the first part of this report. Among various watersheds studied in the immediate area, various cost analyses have shown that the most feasible and inexpensive site for a water improvement project and attendant treatment plant would be on a site along Cartoogechaye Creek.³ This was considered in a consultant's report published in 1962.⁴

¹ Bardot & Associates, Water System Study, November, 1969.

² Ibid.

³ Harwood Beebe and Associates 1960.

⁴ Dickson & Company, 1962.

Despite the fact that a bond issue was voted down regarding this site, the site still remains the most inexpensive to develop and maintain and should be reconsidered.

The water lines, as mentioned before, are in various stages of deterioration. As a matter of policy, all lines under six inches should be replaced with six inch lines and various older lines should be replaced before they break and rust. Despite many investigations, the amount of leakage cannot be determined. A map on the following page depicts the size of water mains at present, and the following map presents future main extensions, fire hydrants, and standpipe locations. Many times during the winter months, these lines freeze and break. Besides causing inconvenience regarding cessation of service, this presents a fire hazard. The policies of expansion of the source, installing treatment facilities, and replacing smaller lines with six inch lines as a minimum, and the replacement of all deteriorating lines should bring Franklin's water system up to par with standards needed for water service and fire protection.

The policy of extending service to a prospective customer's property line and the requirement of the customer paying the tap fee and tapping on at his own expense should be a standard form of business policy for the future.

SEWER SYSTEM

The Franklin sewer system is operated by the Director of Public Works, Town of Franklin. The treatment plant is located on the Little Tennessee River, north of Franklin on Lake Emory.

IN, NORTH CAROLINA



0 500 1000 1500 2000 FEET

WATER SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE

LEGEND

LESS THAN 6 INCH

6 to 8 INCH

10 to 12 INCH

RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL

INDUSTRIAL

PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC

PARKS & OPEN SPACE

WATER LINES

EXISTING

PROPOSED



THOROUGHFARES

PROPOSED

000 000 000 000

EXISTING

000 000 000 000

MAJOR

MINOR

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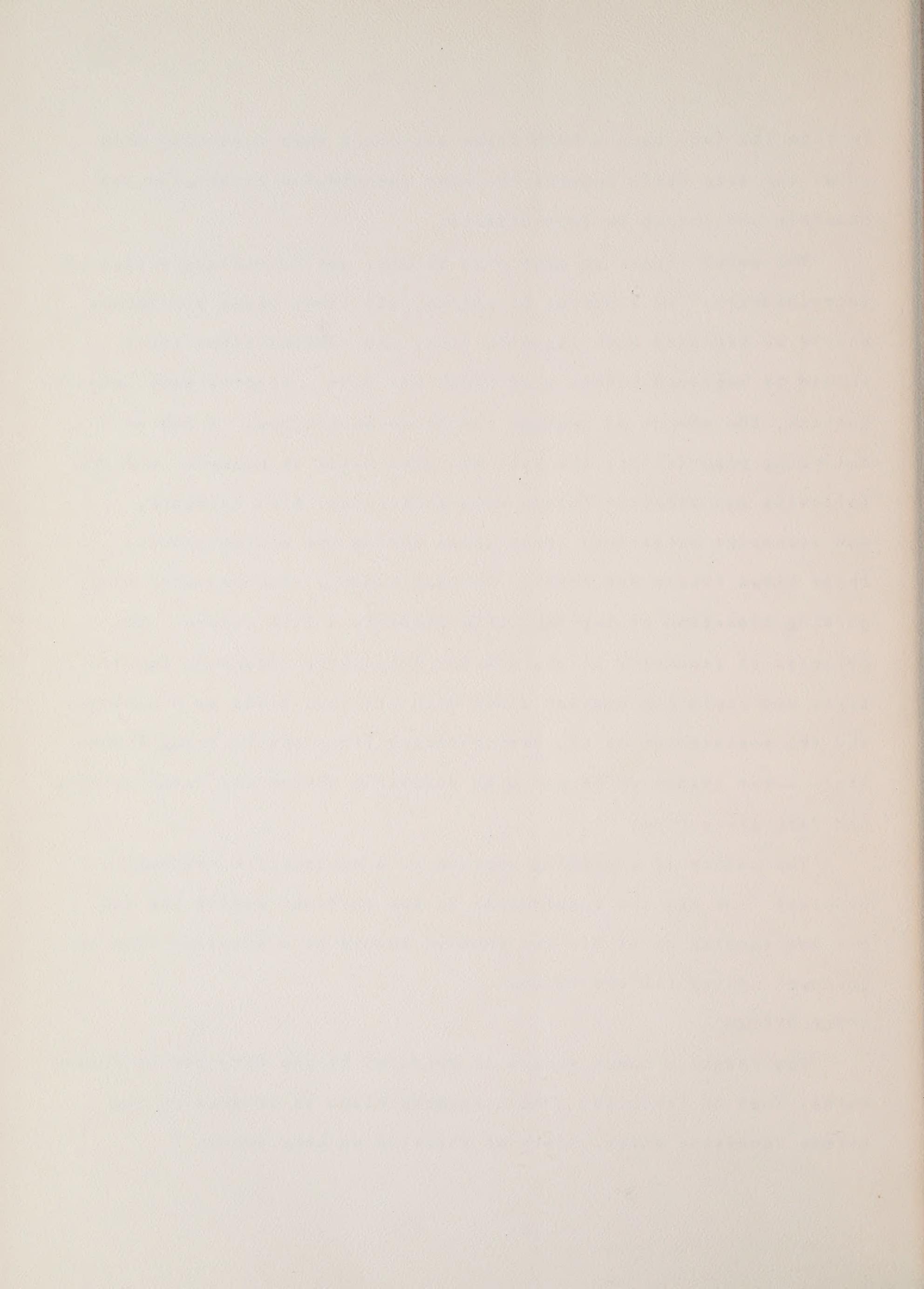
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FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 FEET

WATER SERVICEPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE

LEGEND

LEGEND	WATER LINES	
	EXISTING	PROPOSED
LESS THAN 6 INCH		
6 to 8 INCH		
10 to 12 INCH		
COMMERCIAL		
INDUSTRIAL		
PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC		
PARKS & OPEN SPACE		

THOROUGHFARES	EXISTING	
	PROPOSED	EXISTING

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED: 1962

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



IN, NORTH CAROLINA



0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000

LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

LEGEND

- URBAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC
- PARKS & OPEN SPACE

THOROUGHFARES

PROPOSED	EXISTING	
- - - -	—	MAJOR
- - - -	—	MINOR

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1963

PREPARED BY:

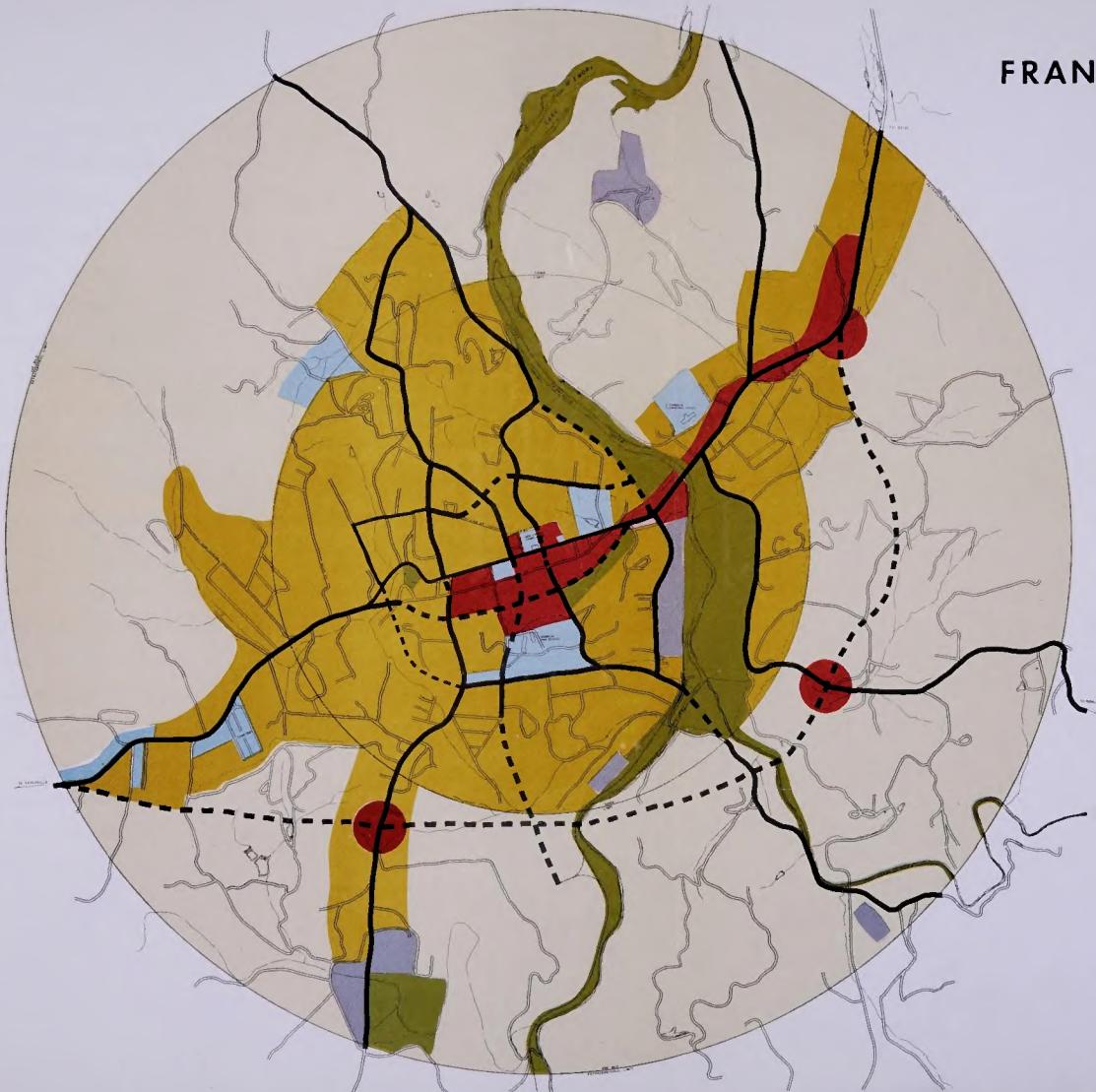
N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



800 0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000



LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

LEGEND

- URBAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC
- PARKS & OPEN SPACE

THOROUGHFARES

PROPOSED	EXISTING	
- - -	—	MAJOR
- - -	—	MINOR

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1963

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

The treatment plant system, installed during 1963, utilizes the process of contact stabilization.

Although the system is relatively new, storm water does seep into broken lines at times. This presents a treatment problem and could conceivable impair the treatment process if appropriate action is not taken. Otherwise the treatment plant and process is adequate to handle the community's sewerage.

At present, the sewer system has mains of adequate size for service to the area. The lines generally run from six inches (branch lines) to fifteen inches (main trunk lines). The town has provisions for expansion of its mains by having installed a fifteen inch line north to the vicinity of the treatment plant and one west and southwest to the Board of Education site. A present need is being met by the running of a new fifteen inch line through the "Frogtown" area (south of the Central Business District) to a shopping center between Phillips and Porter Streets.

A map on the following page graphically displays the sewer lines and describes possible trunk line additions which would be needed in the future in the one mile jurisdictional area.

The nearly new treatment plant should be able to accept additional customers in the future (to a population of 7,502; of 1990). The system's capabilities are being studied by an engineering firm (W. K. Dickson and Company, Charlotte, North Carolina) and a report is due in the latter part of this year.

ELECTRIC SERVICE

Electric service for Franklin is provided by a franchised electric utility, the Nantahala Power and Light Company, with

LIN, NORTH CAROLINA



0 0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000
MILES

SEWER SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE

END PLAN

SEWER LINES

EXISTING

PROPOSED

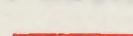
4 to 6 INCH



8-10 & 12 INCH



15 INCH



URBAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL

INDUSTRIAL

GENERALIZED SERVICE EAS

PARKS & OPEN SPACE

ND

THOROUGHFARES

SHORT RANGE 1 to 5 YEARS

LONG RANGE 6 to 20 YEARS

EXISTING

MAJOR
MINOR

PROPOSED

MAJOR

MINOR

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1963

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



0 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000 4000



SEWER SERVICE PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

LEGEND

SEWER LINES	
EXISTING	SOLID RED LINE
PROPOSED	DASHED RED LINE

4 to 6 INCH

8-10 & 12 INCH

15 INCH

RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL

INDUSTRIAL

PARKS & OPEN SPACE

GENERALIZED SERVICE AREAS

LEGEND

THOROUGHFARES	
■	SHORT RANGE 1 to 5 YEARS EXISTING
■	LONG RANGE 6 to 20 YEARS

MAJOR

MINOR

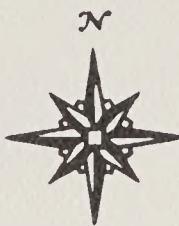
THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1952

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



CARMEL, NORTH CAROLINA



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LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

LEGEND

- URBAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC
- PARKS & OPEN SPACE

THOROUGHFARES

PROPOSED	EXISTING	
- - - -	—	MAJOR
- - - -	—	MINOR

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1963

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



800 0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000

LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVISION AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN

LEGEND

- URBAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- RURAL DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC
- PARKS & OPEN SPACE

THOROUGHFARES

PROPOSED	EXISTING	MAJOR	MINOR
- - - - -	—	—	—
- - - - -	—	—	—

THOROUGHFARE PLAN ADOPTED 1963

PREPARED BY:

N.C. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

main offices in Franklin. The company not only serves Franklin but the surrounding county of Macon, and the counties of Jackson, Cherokee, Swain, and part of Graham.

Service is provided the Town of Franklin for street lights on a rate depending upon the type of lamp and pole to be installed. The majority of the poles are constructed of wood (which is the most inexpensive to install) or aluminum. Most of the poles in the central business district would be enhanced if the latter type of pole were used throughout. One positive point to make is that most of the lamps downtown are fluorescent, which is much brighter at night than the older, mercury vapor lamps were. As a community policy, the Town should ask the power company to install fluorescent lamps throughout the community to enhance overall street safety, improve visibility, and to cut down on night time accidents.

Regarding underground wiring, the company would like to provide this type of service, but due to the fact that most of Franklin was platted without utility easements, (a common situation in older, small communities) the company has deemed underground wiring uneconomical due to high construction costs. This same situation applies county-wide because the County Commissioners have not adopted subdivision regulations and therefore no method of requiring developers' establishment of alley or street or utility easements in the developing areas of the county (particularly within the vicinity of Franklin, Highlands, and the developing Nantahala Lake area). Nantahala should require easements for underground installation. However, the use of subdivision regulations should not be overlooked.

The aforestated situation within the downtown Franklin area may be rectified by the merchants donating easements for underground wiring. This could be facilitated through the implementation of the Franklin "Townlift" Program, in conjunction with the Franklin merchants. This program brings to focus many proposals that could beautify and improve the function of the downtown area, and one is to install underground wiring, through the cooperation of the merchants, the local power company, and the Town.

From an investigation conducted in 1966 by a Task Force Committee of the National Association of Homebuilders, practices in installing underground electrical service are compared with overhead systems. "Greatest potential savings are possible from (1) acceptance of the so-called random-lay method of burying wiring in trenches beside telephone cable, and, in some instances, television lines; (2) use of aluminum cable; (3) standardization of materials and equipment; and (4) advance planning and coordination of installations".^{1,2} The last statement could be implemented through the coordination brought about by the aforementioned Townlift Program.

Due to lower maintainence costs through the installation of underground service, Nantahala should establish a policy favorable to potential customers desiring underground installation.

¹ The Community Builders Handbook, published by the Community Builders Council, Urban Land Institute, Anniversary Edition, 1968.

² Guidelines on Negotiations for Underground Residential Distribution With Report on Costs and Practices. National Association of Home-builders, 1966.

The main offices and shops of Nantahala Power and Light Company at 17 West Main Street in Franklin were constructed in 1952 and should be adequate to serve the needs of the company and the community in the future.

AIRPORT

Airport facilities for Franklin and Macon County are maintained by County Government. In 1969, a new airport opened, which is located north of Franklin along N. C. 28, providing easy access for the community. This airport was sited on the 1969 National Airport Plan for initial construction. The old airport was formerly within the community, situated in the floodplain of the Little Tennessee River. This was inadequate not only from the flood standpoint but also from the standpoint of nearby congestion caused by the presence of the urban community.

The new airport has a paved runway of 3800 feet, which will be extended in the near future. The airport can accommodate small craft of the general utility type, and will no doubt be classed as such by the Federal Aviation Administration once the field has been inspected for inclusion in future National Airport Plan. At present, fourteen private planes are housed at the field. There are no commercial flights at the airport; the closest commercial field is at Asheville.

The new airport is being lighted for 24 hour service. An operator will live at the airport site and subsequently man the field permanently. The extension of the runway to accommodate larger propeller craft and some privately owned small jets (such as Lear jets) is being undertaken. These activities will enhance

the community's and county's position regarding attracting new development since many businessmen and industrialists utilize private aircraft in their operations.¹ The county's taking the abovementioned measures to upgrade air service will facilitate adequate air service for the future. In order to maintain the airport's potential, however, the approaches to the runway should be free of development and this may be established through zoning. This method of land use control should be seriously considered by the county regarding the airport site.

¹ Further information regarding airport development and available grant and technical assistance programs may be obtained from Robert Flournoy Airports Coordinator, Division of Commerce and Industry, Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, North Carolina. 27602

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COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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EW COUNTY COURTHOUSE

RANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

RANKLIN TOWN HALL & FIRE DEPARTMENT

OUNTY LIBRARY

RANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (PROPOSED)

ACON COUNTY SCHOOLS OFFICE

CHOOL BUS GARAGE

OUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

MEMORIAL PARK

NGEL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

OUNTY HEALTH CENTER

AST FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

EWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

AINAINANCE SHOP

RANKLIN CEMETERY

ACON COUNTY FAIRGROUND

ACON COUNTY PARK
Under Construction)

ROGTOWN PARK (PROPOSED)

LD AIRPORT SITE PARK (PROPOSED)

BY:

ON OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

MAP 5

FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA



800 0 800 1600 2400 3200 4000

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

LEGEND

1. NEW COUNTY COURTHOUSE
2. FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
3. FRANKLIN TOWN HALL & FIRE DEPARTMENT
4. COUNTY LIBRARY
5. FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
6. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (PROPOSED)
7. MACON COUNTY SCHOOLS OFFICE
8. SCHOOL BUS GARAGE
9. COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD
10. MEMORIAL PARK
11. ANGEL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
12. COUNTY HEALTH CENTER
13. EAST FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
14. SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT
15. STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION MAINTAINANCE SHOP
16. FRANKLIN CEMETERY
17. MACON COUNTY FAIRGROUND
18. MACON COUNTY PARK
(Under Construction)
19. FROGTOWN PARK (PROPOSED)
20. OLD AIRPORT SITE PARK (PROPOSED)

PREPARED BY:

N.C. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

EDUCATION AND LIBRARY SERVICE
SCHOOLS

Public elementary and secondary educational opportunities are provided Franklin by the Macon County Public Schools. The headquarters of the school system is located on U. S. 64, approximately a half-mile west of the Franklin Town limits. The headquarters office is the former West Franklin School, converted to administrative use. Adjacent to the office is the school bus garage, housing the transportation arm of the school district.

These facilities and the schools within the system directly serving the Franklin area will be discussed in this report. The following schools in the county-wide system serve Franklin: the Franklin Elementary School, Franklin High School (also serving the rest of the county excepting Highlands) and the East Franklin School.

The headquarters offices are adequate at present for the housing of the administration for the school system. The aforementioned conversion of a school to administrative use was carried out on the basis of a recommendation by the Macon County School Survey conducted by the State Department of Public Instruction in 1966. More paved parking facilities for staff and visitors behind the present building is recommended. Otherwise, the office and school bus garage appear adequate for their respective functions.

The Franklin Elementary School (built in 1928) is presently functioning as a junior high school, a function for which it was not designed. Present enrollment is 200 students; the number of teachers is seven; two of these are special allotments from the

high school. In order to adequately serve this 7-8 grade age bracket, a new junior high school should be constructed, preferably near the present high school on school-owned grounds. This would ease a transition problem from junior high to senior high, but the school should have its own cafeteria and gymnasium in order to remain a separate entity as much as possible.

The Franklin High School, built in 1951, has two additions, both constructed in 1954. The present enrollment is 923, with 37 teachers. The pupil teacher ratio is 35.1, which is rather high for a high school. Also, intensive use of the physical plant facilities over the past 19 years has created a need for extensive renovation, in the opinion of the superintendent and the planner. Also, more classrooms should be built since the school capacity design is 700 pupils.¹ The renovations that need tending to are: the roof, work on the oil burner, plumbing work, renovation of the lunch room kitchen, and more parking spaces for teachers and pupils.

The East Franklin School, built in 1951, had additions constructed in 1954 and 1969. At present it is in fair condition; present upkeep should suffice. However, more classrooms might be needed in the future. No capital improvements are programmed for this school at present. The school serves grades one through six.

At the present time, all three Franklin schools are accredited by both the State, and by the Southern Association of Elementary and Secondary Schools. It is obvious that the local school board and superintendent are working to improve standards, but more must be

¹ School Survey, Macon County, N. C. Department of Public Instruction,
1966.

done to maintain present ones and to correct present deficiencies. An overall objective of the school board is to establish kindergartens in all elementary schools in the county; this objective should be expedited as new staff and monies permit.

Opportunities for higher education exist in various locations in the surrounding counties. Western Carolina University is located at Cullowhee, twenty miles distant; the Southwestern Technical Institute, a state-maintained post high school vocational center is located at Sylva, twenty-two miles away. These opportunities put Franklin at an advantage regarding higher educational pursuits, contrasted to other small communities in more remote locations in the state.

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School	Location and Size of District and Pupil Distribution	Date of Construction:	Type Building:	Number of Classrooms:	To Date: 4/7/70 1969-1970	*Estimated Present Enrollment:	Approx. Student Capacity:	Service Area: Each School:	Based on Present Enrollment Base State Allot. & ESEA Teachers-Pupil Ratio P.T.
Cartoogechaye	8 acres	1951	Masonry	*10	181	182	252	Space *Adequate	20/9
Cowee	7 acres	1940	Stone and Masonry	* 8	175	181	196	Space *Adequate	22/8
Gullasaja	5.7	1949	Cinder Block & Masonry	*11	222	223	280	Space *Adequate	10/22
East Franklin*	5.9	1951	Masonry	24	535	520	644	Space Adequate	24/22
Franklin Elem.*		*1928	New CB, BV & Masonry	14	Inc. 25 sp. ed. 200	200	364	Total Bldg. Needs replaced	28/7
Franklin High*	(both schools) 28.0 acres	1951	Masonry	32	923	901	896	Extensive Renovation	24/37
Highlands	17.1 acres	1951	CB & Masonry	14	275 Elem. 105 H. S.	380	392	Adequate	21/18
Iota	6.9 acres	1951	Masonry	* 8	196	196	196	Space *Adequate	21/9
Nantahala	5.7 acres	1951	CB & Masonry	12	159 Elem. 47 H. S.	210	336	Adequate	23/9
Otto	8.0	1940	Stone and Masonry	* 9	200	200	224	*Adequate	25/8
Union	4.8 acres	1951	Masonry	* 8	236	236	196	Space *Adequate	26/9

*Schools serving Franklin

*Needs replacement

*Classroom presently serving as a central library which we consider essential to the total school program

*1970-71-3429
1971-72-3377
1972-73-3325
1973-74-3273
1974-75-3321

*Service areas need paving

Source:
Superintendent,
Macon County Schools

*New industry could greatly change this figure

LIBRARY SERVICE

Library service is provided the community of Franklin by the County Library Board, with the one library in Franklin. The Franklin Public Library is an active member of the Fontana Regional Library System, with headquarters at Bryson City. The regional system supplements the local library through such measures as group purchase of books and other supplies and through the operation of a bookmobile service, which the county system is too small to provide.

The library is housed in the Library Building at 9 Phillips Street, in downtown Franklin. This gives the library an accessible location. The building, constructed specifically for library use, was built in 1950 and is large enough for present and future operations. However, through the rearrangement of the interior and through use of the second floor for reading purposes, the potential for expansion to adequately serve future customers should be adequate for the twenty year planning period. In order to do this, though, a thorough cleaning of the upstairs should be undertaken and air conditioning installed to make the upstairs usable in the summer, and heating upstairs for winter use. Also, an additional librarian should be hired in order to supervise the additional upstairs space. These actions would keep the present building active in service to the community for the foreseeable future.

There are various programs that the library sponsors that the library board would like to expand, such as the lecture series

and the movie program. For the successful initiation and maintenance of these programs, assistance is given by the regional library; however, a local organization of volunteers to supplement aid to the library and to help in corralling public opinion to foster use of these programs will be needed. Such a community organization would be a local "Friends of the Library". At present, the local librarian is making efforts towards this end. It is assumed that such an organization will be formed in the near future.

Through a combined effort by the regional library and by a local civic organization such as the Friends of the Library, many programs can be initiated and additional books, movies and records can be purchased. The civic organization could buy a record player (which the library at present does not have) and help sponsor activities and the regional library could supply the circulating materials.

Regarding the building itself, it is adequate, and with a few changes in floor usage arrangements, it could be expanded for other activities. However, one change should be taken into consideration regarding the physical plant. There is no off-street parking. The parcel directly behind the library should be purchased for additional parking space. This problem should be rectified in order for the library to have parking space available for the increased patronage resulting from expanded programs and activities.

